

A code of conduct



What is a code of conduct?

A code of conduct says how everyone in a group will behave.

A code of conduct = rules for how everyone will treat each other.

A code of conduct = a list of rules naming how everyone will behave.



Question: Who are these rules for?

Your group should decide who the rules are for.

A group can have a list of rules for

- Members of the advocacy group.





- You can make rules for the facilitator of the group.

A facilitator is a person who guides a group in its work.

A facilitator does not talk control of a group.

A facilitator will help members of a group to take the power and lead the group.



- You can make rules for Support staff who works with members of the group.



Question: Why does a group need rules on how everyone will behave?



Having rules that say how everyone will behave will help people understand what is expected of them.

Rules for how people will behave can make groups a safe place where people feel respected and listened to.



It can help meetings run well. These rules can help everyone have a say and be listened to.



A list of rules for a facilitator:

- Help the facilitator understand how to do their job.
- Help the facilitator work right way for the advocacy group they are supporting.
- It can help put the power firmly rooted and owned by group members.



- If a facilitator is paid by the same service group members use this can help with conflict of interests.
- Avoid overbearing facilitators who take over the group.

Writing a list of rules for group members



Here are some things you can put in to a list of rules for group members:

We respect the opinions and ideas of all group members.

We will run meetings in a way that supports everyone to have their say and be heard



Easy to read

We will help people to get information in ways they can understand.

We will give people time to understand and support people to understand.

We understand that everyone is different.



We will treat all members with equal respect.

Respect means being polite, treating people as an equal and valuing their ideas and decisions

We treat all people the same way that we want to be treated.



People cannot not be bullied, threatened or treated badly in our group

Bullying means fighting, talking about someone behind their back, calling people names, swearing at people, threatening people, bullying on the internet etc.



Members have the right to be heard if they are not happy they also have the right to make a complaint.