



Tips for Social Workers

Homes not Hospitals

Easy Read



Good social work can help the person you support to live the life they want.



Here are some tips on how you can support people to live their best lives.

Focus on the individual



Social Workers should get to know the person, their friends and family.



Use the person's experiences to decide what is the best care and support for them.

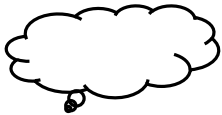


Use your power and The British Association of Social Workers (BASW) Code of Ethics to champion people's rights.



To read the Code of Ethics, click here:
<https://www.basw.co.uk/about-basw/code-ethics>

Working together



Social Workers must listen to the voices of the person, their family, carers and other professionals involved in their care.



Understanding the strengths of the individual, their family and other professionals can lead to more joined up working.

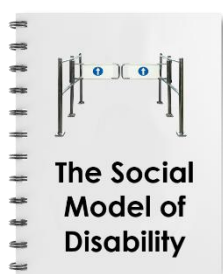


Do not be afraid to challenge others to make sure the person and their best interests are at the centre of all decisions.



Be open to learning new things and work with other organisations but make sure to keep promoting the voice of the person you are supporting.

Using evidence



Social Workers should promote inclusion and understand the Social Model of Disability to help people live the best life possible.

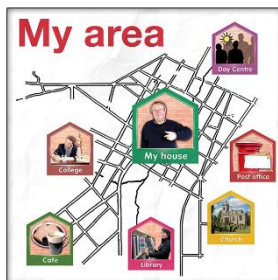
The Social Model of Disability says that people with disabilities face more barriers to good care support such as;



- The community not welcoming people with disabilities
- Living in poorer housing
- Having less money
- Being at risk of abuse or harm
- Not enough services to meet their needs



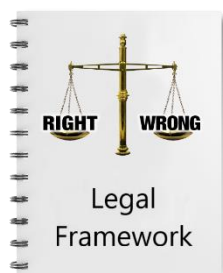
Social Workers should use their skills and values to see the person and not just their diagnosis.



Find out about local groups and services for the person you are supporting.



Use evidence from the individuals, families as well as National Organisations to help make choices about care and support.



Keep up-to-date with all laws, policies and guidance around care and support for people with learning disabilities and autistic people.

Taking risks and protecting rights



Social Workers must understand and know when to use the policies and know how their role fits into the care system.



Make sure that people's rights are protected when making decisions about their care.



Work with other professionals to make sure all risks are considered and understood.



Support individuals and their families to understand their own risks and to learn from their past decisions.

Safeguarding



Social Workers must be able to see the signs of abuse, discrimination and neglect and what affect they have on individuals and their families.



Raise concerns and act when people are at risk of neglect, abuse or discrimination.

Positive Impact of Social Work



Share your stories and experiences with others to show what a positive impact social work can make.

Professional Development and learning



Let others know of any skills you do not have to do your job and make a plan to learn them.