

Charter for children and young people in care

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE RIGHTS

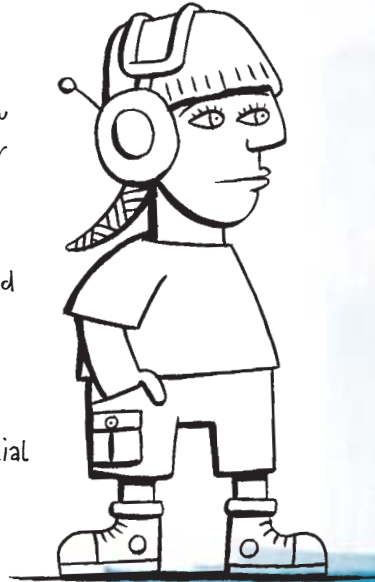


This charter belongs to you. We want to care for you as well as we can. When you are in care and living away from home you have rights. This means that you can expect to be treated well and to be well cared for.

A charter is a way of letting you know about what to expect when you are in care. Everyone who looks after you is expected to do their best in caring for you.

In making this charter we have talked with young people and people who work with them.

If you are in a residential placement your rights may be different. Your Social Worker or a staff member of the residences will talk to you about this.



- 1 ♦ I have the **RIGHT** to know why I am in care. I should be **TREATED** like other children who are not in care and can live at home. > > > >



2. I have the RIGHT to live with people who CARE about me, who RESPECT me and who I can TRUST. They will give me enough food to eat, my own bed, a place where I will feel SAFE, and WARM clothes to wear.

MY FAVOURITE FOODS:

3. I have the right to say no to people touching me, hitting me or saying things that make me feel yucky or uncomfortable.

4.

I have the right to have a SAY about things that are happening to me and to be told what is going to happen to me. My social worker or caregiver will TALK with me about this.



5.

I have the right to DEVELOP the things I'm GOOD at and do things that are important to me, within reason. This includes my culture, language and religion. I have the right to get SUPPORT if I need help to do the things that I want to do.



THINGS I ENJOY
OR AM GOOD AT:



6.

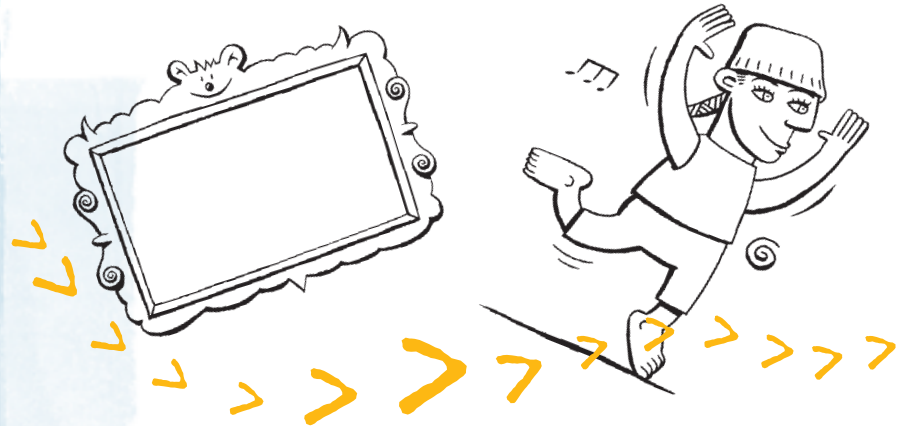
I have the right to have stuff like CLOTHES, POCKET MONEY, TOYS AND BOOKS within reason and I can ask my CAREGIVER or SOCIAL WORKER how to get them.



7 I have the RIGHT to SEE,
PHONE, TALK or WRITE
to my PARENTS,
BROTHERS and SISTERS
and other FAMILY and
FRIENDS. My social worker
or caregiver will tell me
why if I can't.

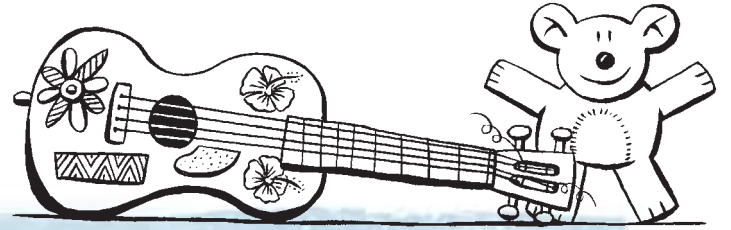
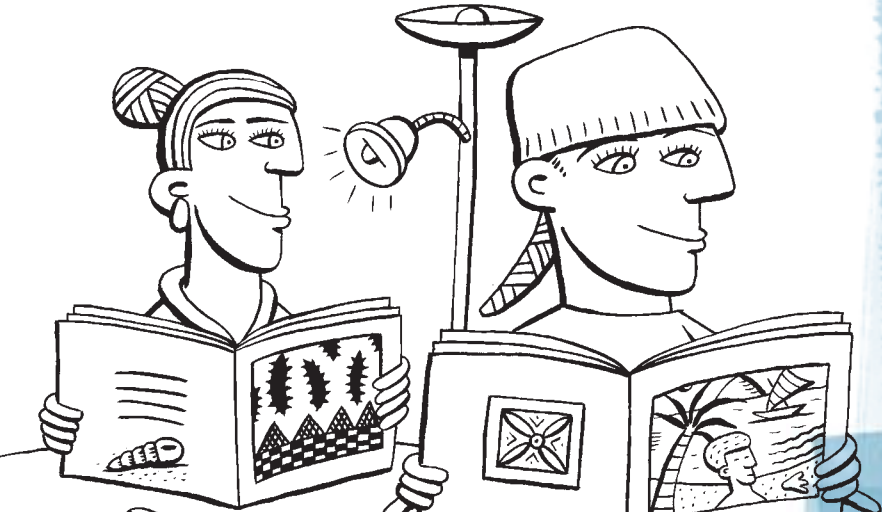


MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS



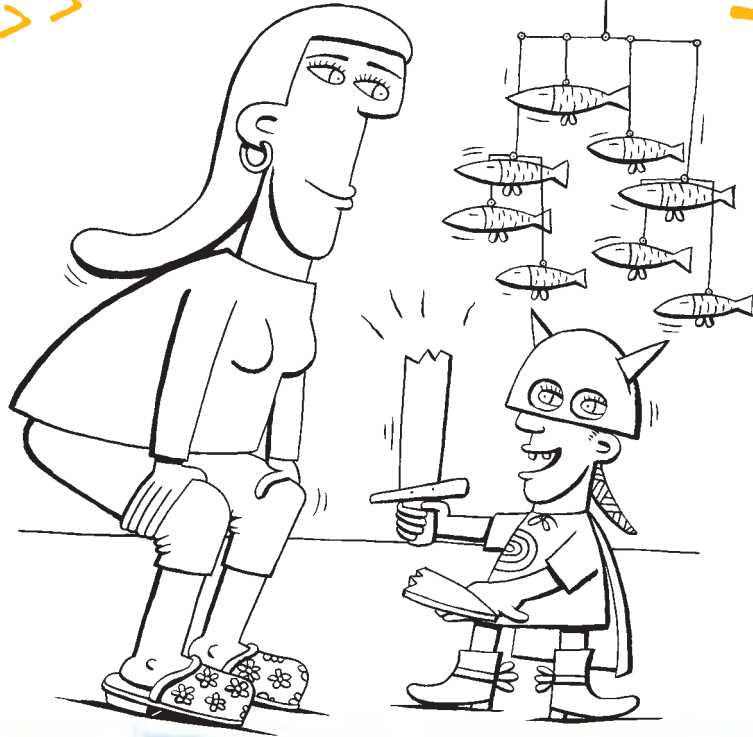
8.

I have the **RIGHT** to go to school and have someone **HELP** me with my **HOMEWORK** so I can do my **BEST**.



9.

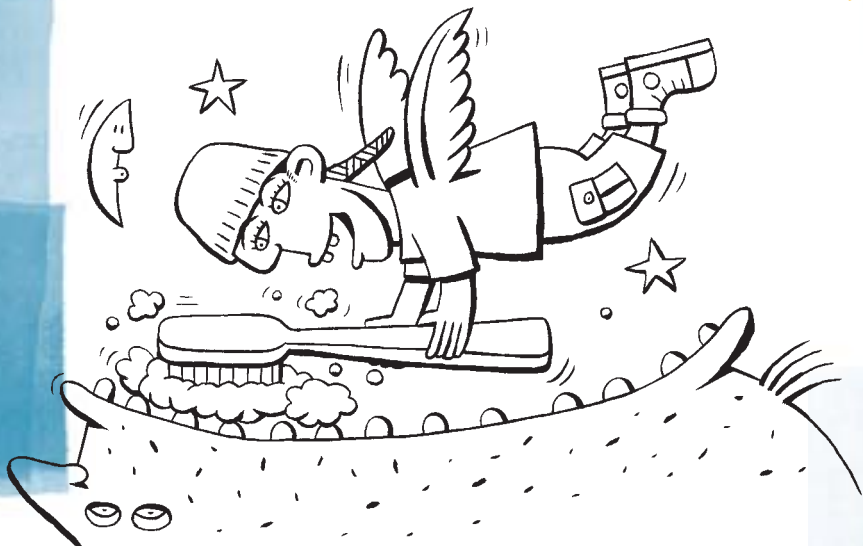
I have the **RIGHT** to stuff or things that are only **MINE** and I can be on my own if I want to and it's **SAFE**.



10.

I have the right to see my **LAWYER**,
CAREGIVER and **SOCIAL**
WORKER on my own. These adults
will **LISTEN** to me. I can also talk
to other adults, like my **TEACHER**
or **CAREGIVER**, about worries
that I might have.

11. I have the right to have my
TEETH CHECKED and see
a **DOCTOR** like other children.



> 12.

I have the **RIGHT** to tell
someone if I do not feel that
I am being **LISTENED**
to or I need someone to
HELP me. I could tell my
social worker, caregiver, lawyer
or my teacher.

13. I have the right to a copy of the rights that nearly every country in the world agrees kids should have (this is called the united nations convention on the rights of the child). My social worker can tell me more about this.

14. I have the **RIGHT** to **ASK** to see what is written about me. I should ask my social worker about the best way to do this. If I am not allowed I must be told why.



IT'S OK TO COMPLAIN

You have rights. We want to make sure that your rights in this Charter are met. If you feel you are not being listened to or need someone who can act on your behalf, or you want to make a complaint, this is what you can do:

- > Speak to a social worker

Ph: _____

- > Ask to speak to the supervisor at your social worker's office

Ph: _____

- > You can make a complaint on this number: 0508 326 459

- > You can also speak to someone at the Office of the Commissioner for Children on: 0800 22 44 53
- > Other people you can speak to:



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

My phone number is: _____

Social worker: _____

Dr: _____

Family, friends and people I trust:

HOUSE RULES

The house rules where I am living are:



child, youth
and family

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