

The Lounge **house rules**

Part of The Lounge website is a secure section available only to children in care and care leavers in Devon who have registered with us and have received a username and password.

This section is secure so that you can ask questions, share your experiences and post comments which can only be seen by other people in care in Devon.

This section of the website is **moderated**. This means that we check everything before it goes on to the website. All comment website and blogs do this, and it means that we can make sure there is no bullying and that the website is a safe a friendly place that everyone can use.

To help with this we have worked with some children in care to create a set of **house rules**. These are for your safety and to keep The Lounge message boards a safe and friendly place for discussions.

Member name

The lounge is a place for you to share your views safely and honestly. The best way to do this is to keep your identity private and use a member name which doesn't tell people who you are.

You must choose a member name which

- does not contain a website or email address
- does not contain your real name or personal details about you
- is not someone else's name
- does not contain swear words or offensive terms.

Comments

We want everyone to feel comfortable sharing their thoughts, experiences and comments on The Lounge. To make this happen we have to some rules which everyone on the site agrees with and sticks to.

We will not post messages on The Lounge which:

- we consider are bullying another person
- might upset or offend other people
- are racist, sexist, homophobic, sexually explicit or abusive
- contain swear words or other language which could offend people
- break the law or encourage other people to break the law
- advertise products or services to make money
- are pretending to be someone else
- include contact details such as phone numbers or email addresses
- contain links to other websites which are racist, sexist, homophobic, sexually explicit or abusive
- describe or encourage activities which could put other people in danger
- are 'spam', that is posts containing the same, or similar, message posted lots of times.

If your message breaks one of these rules we will send you an email telling you why we are not putting your message on the site.

If you repeatedly try to post messages breaking these house rules we will contact your social worker or support worker to tell them what is happening, and you may be excluded from the site temporarily.

Talk to us!

If you are not sure about comments you want to make, don't feel confident about using the website or have some questions about how it all works give us a call on **01392 383698** or email **cypspubs@devon.gov.uk**

We would love to hear from you and will be happy to have a chat with you, answer your questions and talk you through any website concerns you have.

Confidentiality statement

Your login name is confidential; only The Lounge administrators know who you are.

We will not pass on anything you post on this website to your social worker or support worker **unless** we feel you or someone else is at risk of **harm**.

We will contact you if we feel we have to make contact with your social worker.

If you would like any more information about this call **01392 383698** or email **thelounge@devon.gov.uk**