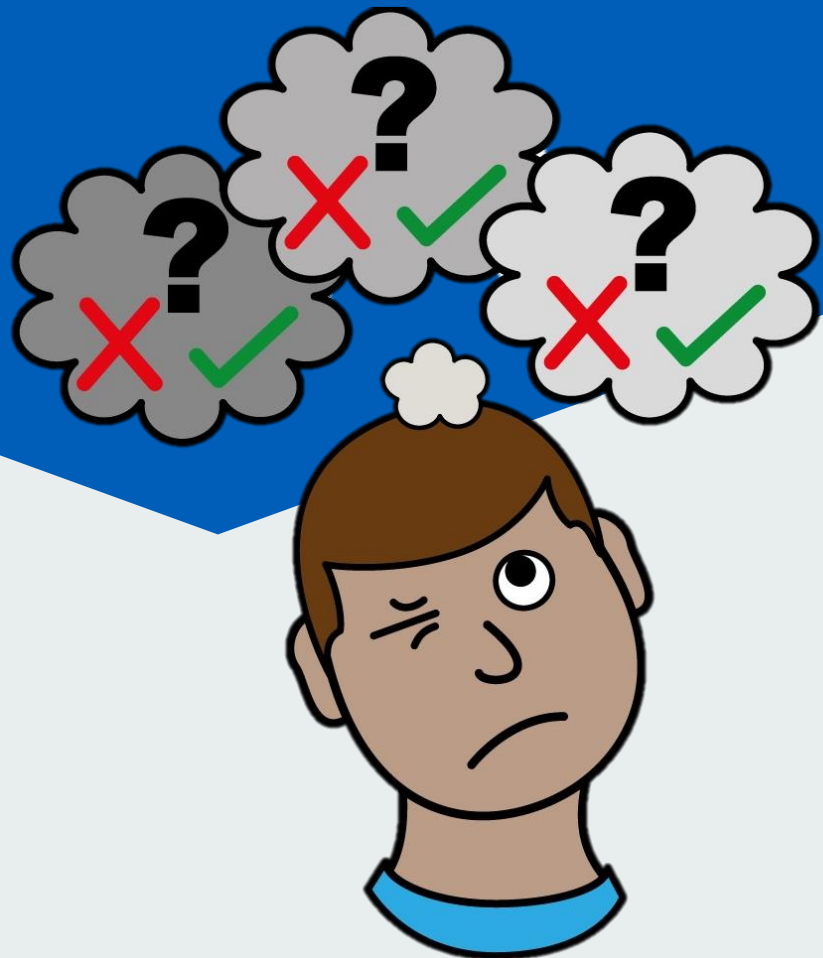




Easy Read

Mental Capacity Act and Consent

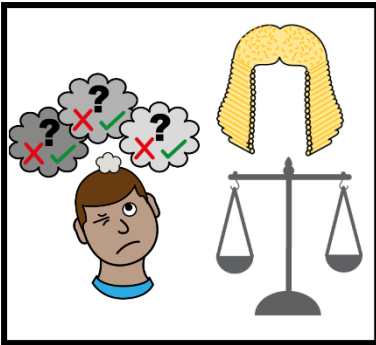
Information leaflet





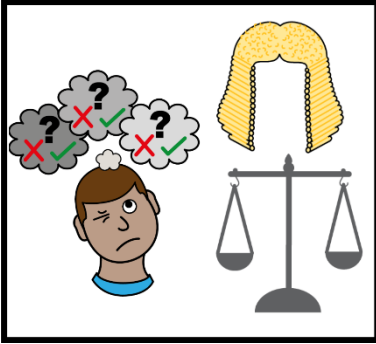
This booklet uses easy words and pictures.

You might want to ask someone to help you read it.

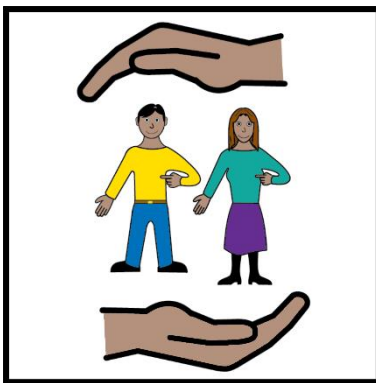


This booklet is about mental capacity and consent.

What is the Mental Capacity Act?



The Mental Capacity Act is a law that helps people make their own decisions. It is also known as MCA.



MCA protects people who cannot make their own decisions.



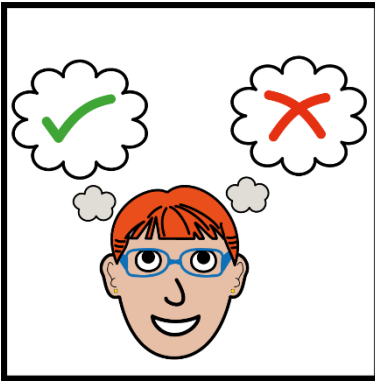
It also protects people who need family, friends or paid support staff to make decisions for them.



16 or older

It is for people who are aged 16 and over.

Consent

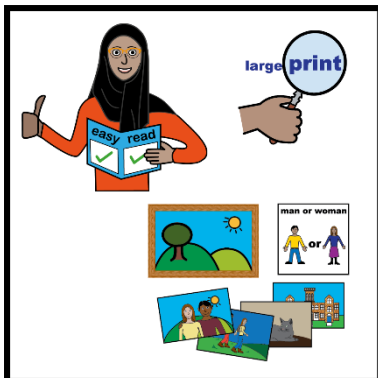


Consent is being able to decide whether to say yes or no to something that involves you.



This could be about:

- Your money
- Your health
- Activities you do every day
- Where you live



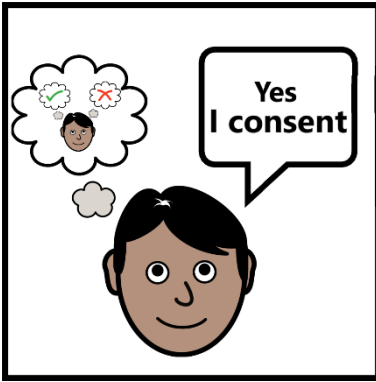
You should be given the information to make the decision in a way you understand.

This could be:

- Easy read
- Makaton
- Pictures and drawings

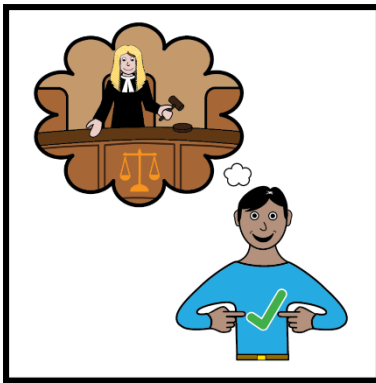


You have to make the decision for yourself.

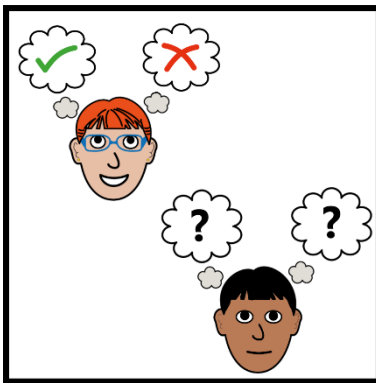


You have to have mental capacity to be able to consent.

Capacity



The Mental Capacity Act looks at how you make the decision for yourself.

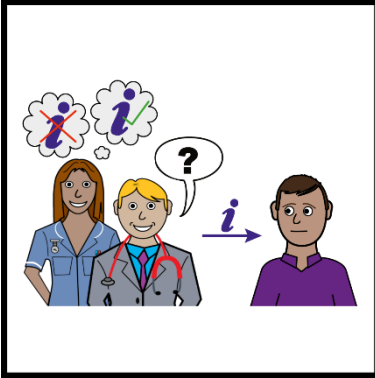


Some people can make their own decisions. But some people can't.



Every decision is separate.

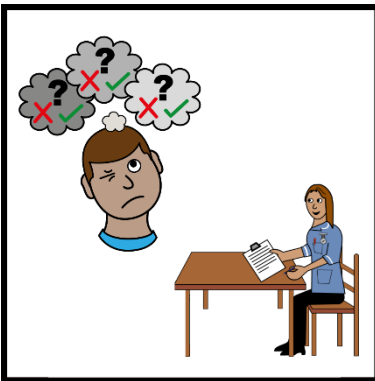
Assessing my capacity



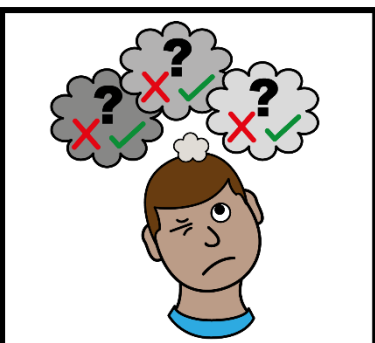
A professional will check if you can make the decision for yourself.



Reasonable adjustments should be made to support you to make the decision.



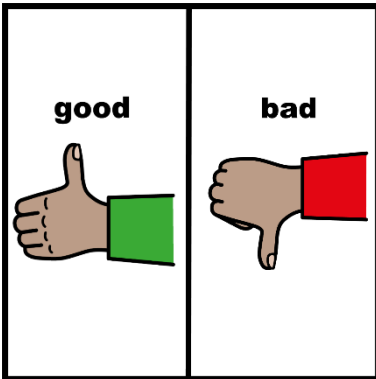
If they doubt your capacity, they must do a mental capacity assessment.



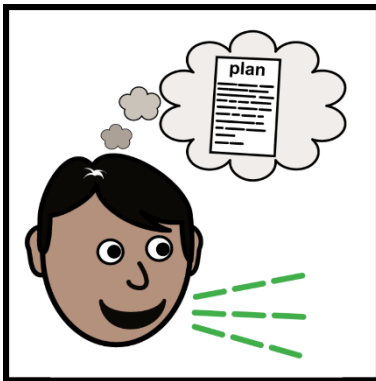
It is important you understand the information about the decision you are making.



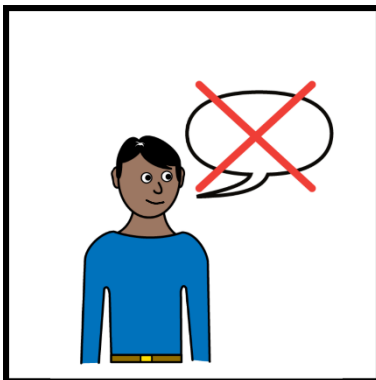
You need to be able to remember what you are being told long enough to make the decision.



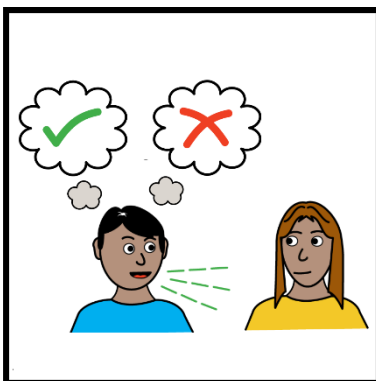
You need to understand what is good and bad about your decision and use this to make your decision.



You need to be able to tell someone the reasons for your decision.

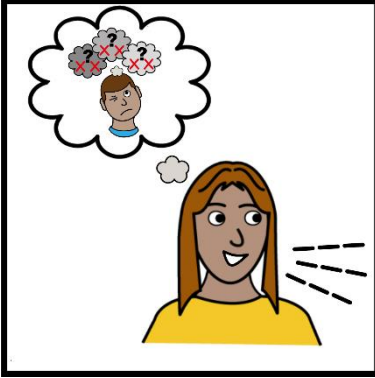


You do not need to be able to speak to make your decision.

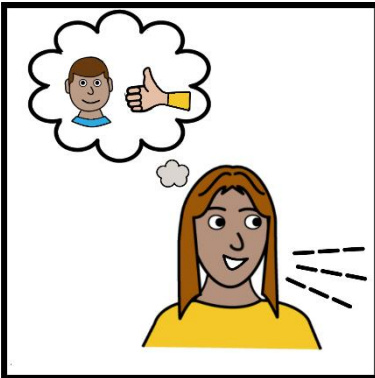


Tell someone your decision in a way that works for you.

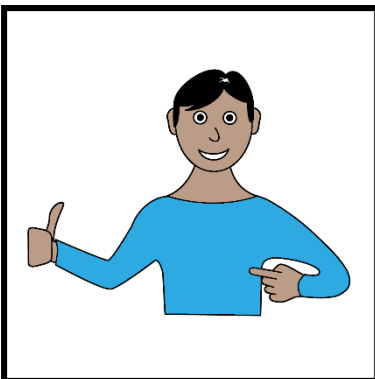
If you do not have capacity...



If you do not have capacity, someone else will make the decision for you.



With the help of others, they will make a decision in your best interests.



They will do this by:

- Making sure what is important to you is considered
- Making sure people important to you are included in making the decision
- Working with other people involved in your care
- Looking at all available options to help make the decision

Getting help



The law on consent and capacity can be hard to understand.



If you need help, you should speak to an advocate who knows about consent and capacity.



Or a solicitor can give you help and advice in understanding the law.



The Government have published [more detailed easy read information on the Mental Capacity Act 2005 here.](#)

Click the link or scan the QR code.



If you wanted more information about MCA or capacity, or to tell us what you think of our service, you can:

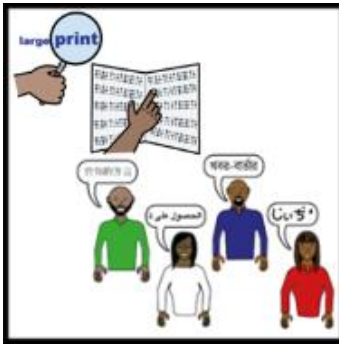


- Talk to a member of staff



- Contact the service involved in your care

Other formats



If you require this information in other languages, Braille, large print, or audio format please speak to a member of staff providing your care.