



Rossie

**CHANGING**  
**the Language**  
**in Care**

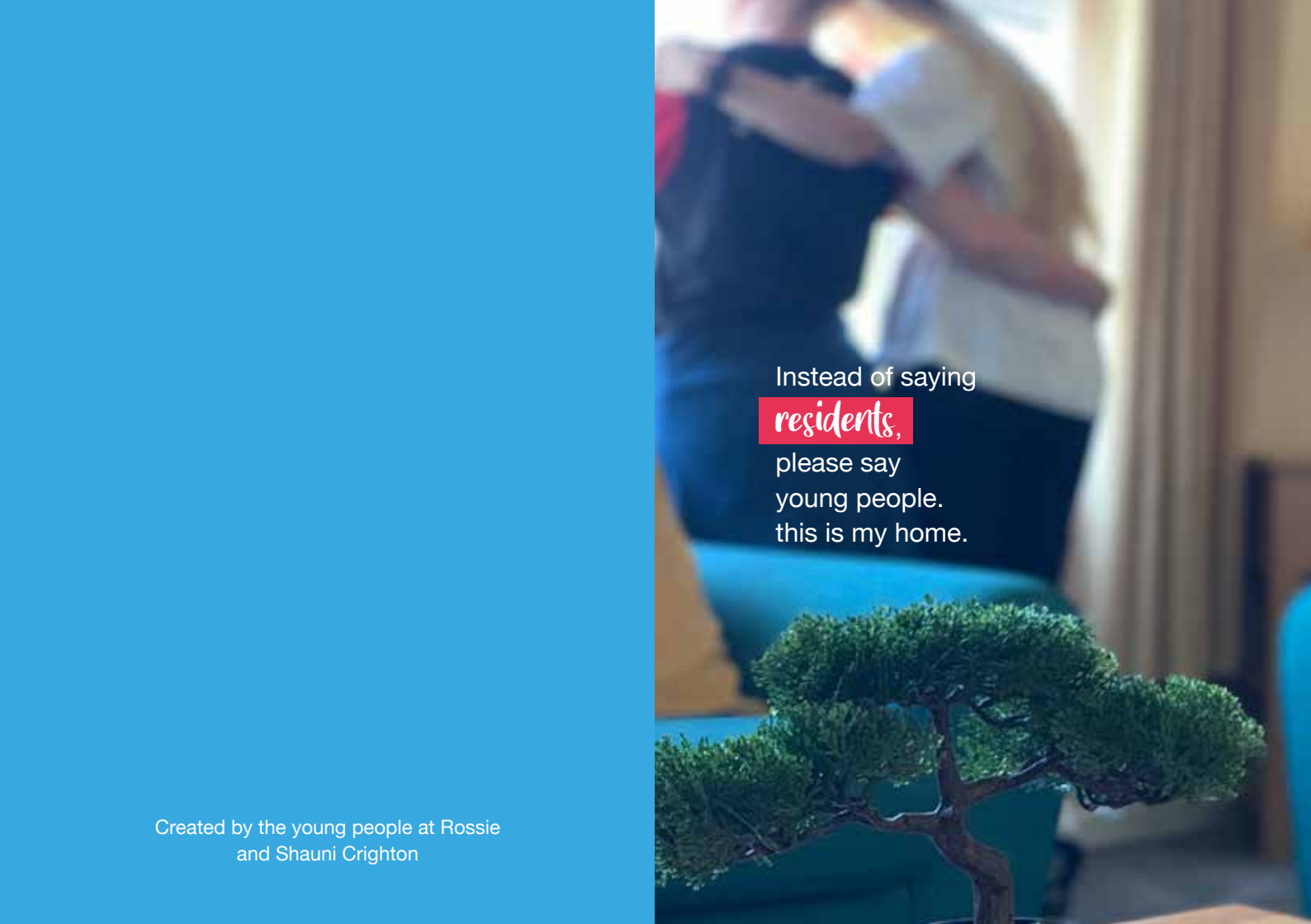
BY MANA



Scotland must change the language of care. Language must be easily understood, be positive and must not create or compound stigma. Scotland must stop using professionalised language to describe meetings and experiences.


The Promise



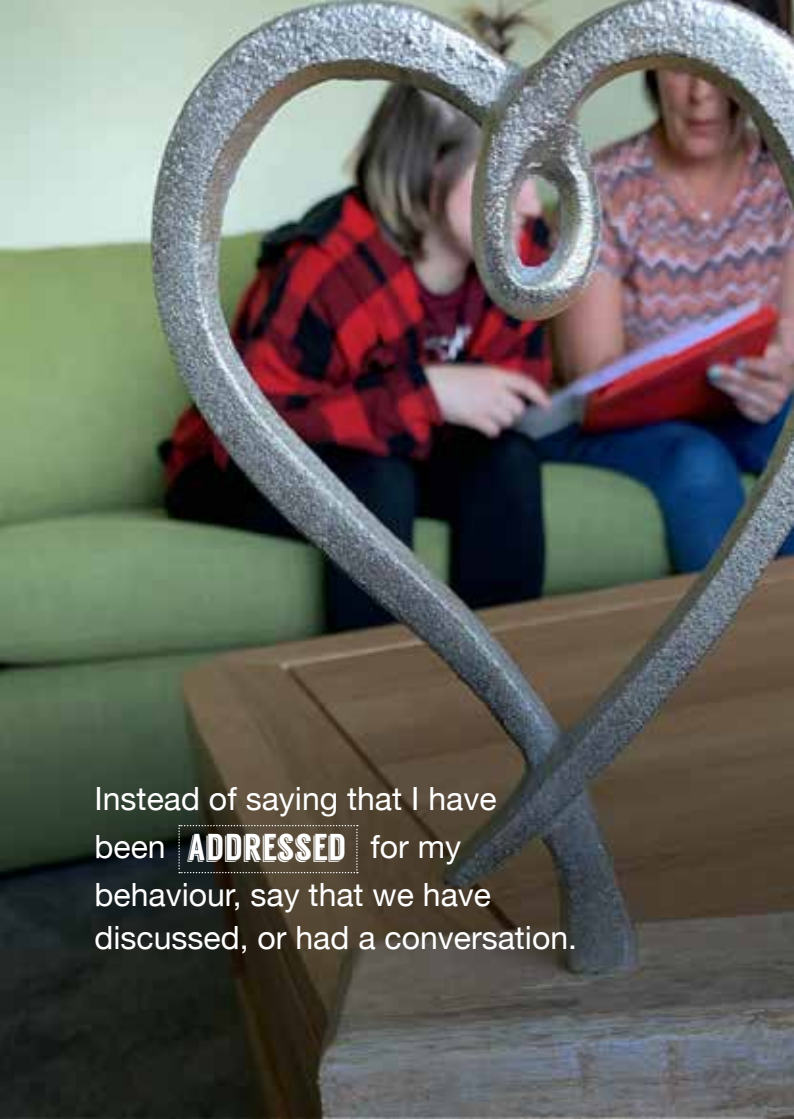


Instead of saying  
*residents,*  
please say  
young people.  
this is my home.


Created by the young people at Rossie  
and Shauni Crighton



Instead of saying **grandfather and grandmother**, ask me what I prefer to call my grandparents. If you used the words nana and grumpy at my meetings, this would make me feel like you are a part of the team around me.



Instead of saying that I have been **ADDRESSED** for my behaviour, say that we have discussed, or had a conversation.



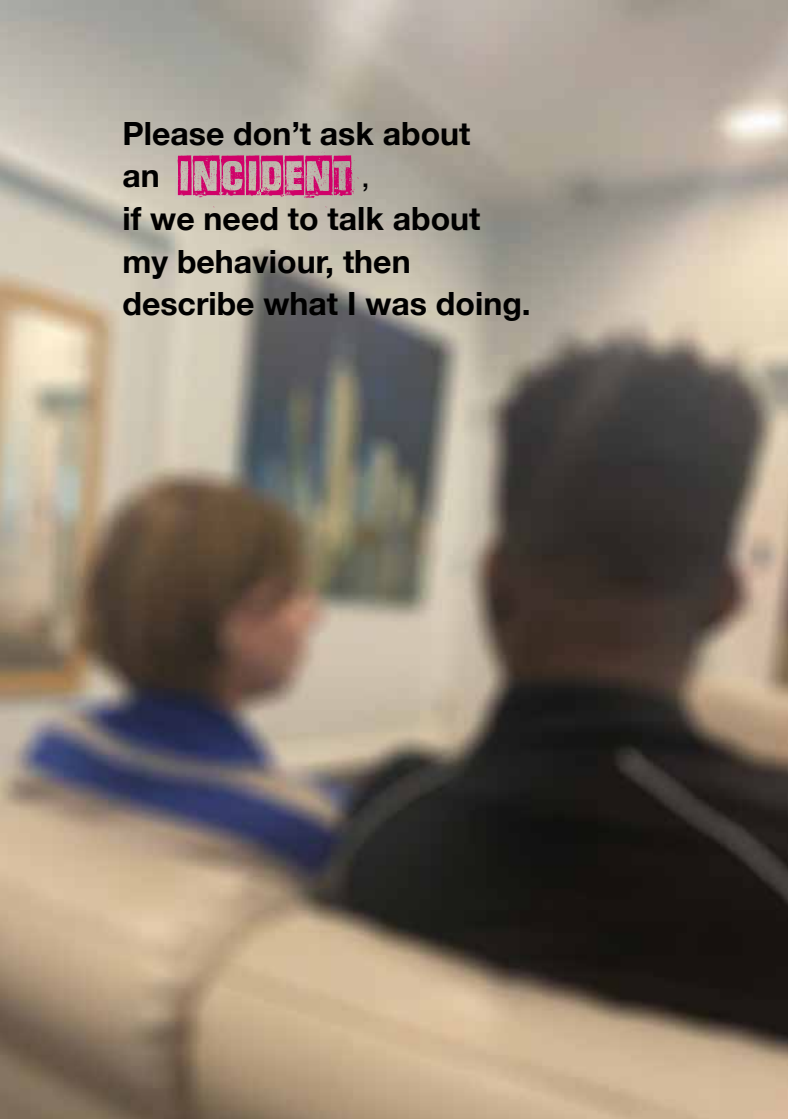
Instead of saying **holistic health**, say my overall health, or my health in general. I find it hard to understand what holistic health means which can make me feel isolated at my meetings.



Instead of saying **education**,

please say school, or college. All of my friends go to school or college, not education.


Please don't ask about  
an **INCIDENT** ,  
if we need to talk about  
my behaviour, then  
describe what I was doing.




Using the  
term, **risk taking  
behaviours** could  
cause confusion. If we  
are at my meeting, then  
please describe my  
behaviour.

A person with short brown hair, wearing a red and black plaid hoodie, is sitting on a bed. In front of them is a large suitcase with a black and white geometric pattern and a pink zipper. The background shows a wall with a light-colored, textured pattern and a wooden headboard.

When I arrive at a new home, please do not call me an **admission**. This does not make me feel welcomed.

A person with long dark hair, wearing a white and black patterned shirt, is sitting at a desk. They are looking at a computer monitor. A colorful laser light display is projected onto the wall behind them, creating a vibrant, multi-colored pattern. The room appears to be a dorm room or a study area.

If I am in secure care, **USE MY NAME**, my identity is important.

A person in a white t-shirt is hugging a person from behind. The person being hugged is wearing a white lace top and a black and white checkered skirt. The person being hugged has their face obscured by a pink heart containing text.

I don't have **contact with my family**, I visit them, I call them, I skype them.

Two people are standing in a wooded area. One person is wearing a dark jacket and the other is wearing a light blue shirt. They appear to be talking. In the foreground, there is a wooden table.

Using the term **EMOTIONALLY DYSREGULATED**

makes me feel like I have done something wrong. Please say how I was feeling in words that I will understand.





When staff use the word **UNIT** instead of house it can make me feel like I don't have a place that I belong to.




Instead of saying *abscond*, please say “ran away”, this makes more sense to me and helps me feel included in my meetings.



Please ask me what I prefer to call my **BIRTH PARENTS**, calling them this makes feel like I am no longer part of their family.



Saying that I am *heightened* can be confusing, please describe how I am feeling and /or what I am doing.

A photograph showing the back of a man in a dark blue quilted jacket and a young child walking away from the camera on a paved path. The background is blurred, showing other people and buildings.

Please call my **siblings** by their names or say brothers and sisters. I wouldn't refer to my brothers and sisters as my siblings.

A photograph of a person wearing a red and black plaid shirt and blue jeans, standing next to a patterned suitcase with pink trim. The person is partially obscured by a pink floral graphic. The scene is outdoors with greenery and a gravel path.

When I move, I would prefer that you didn't say that I am going to a new **placement**, but to a new house.



If I am in secure care, please don't say that I am "going out in the **COMMUNITY**" as this makes me feel like I am a prisoner. Instead, just say that I am going out with staff.


I know that there are certain things I am not allowed, but I would prefer if you didn't call these things **contraband**. At home, they would just be things that I am not allowed.






## SANCTIONS

is very formal,  
I would rather  
you said  
consequences.



I would rather you  
said supported calls  
and supported visits.  
rather than **supervised.**  
This can make me feel like  
I have done something wrong.



I don't need

**RISK  
MANAGEMENT  
STRATEGIES.**

I need you to keep me safe.



Don't call me **AGGRESSIVE** discuss  
exactly what I have done or said.



I don't have **INTERACTIONS** with my friends, I just talk to them.



What do you mean **social inclusion?**  
I just join in with my friends or with activities.



I don't

**express views**


I just say what

I think and feel.



I didn't **access** the swimming pool / my phone. I just went to the swimming pool / I had my phone.



A young man and woman are standing in a garden. The man is wearing a dark jacket and light-colored pants, and the woman is wearing a light-colored top and dark pants. They are looking at each other. In the background, there are colorful windsocks hanging from a wooden post. The ground is covered with wood chips.

I don't live with you,  
for you to **modify my  
behaviour**, I need you to  
look after me and care for me.  
I want you to help me to  
manage my feelings  
especially if I am in  
a difficult situation.

A group of people are sitting around a table, looking at a map. The scene is blurred, but the people appear to be engaged in a discussion or activity. The table is covered with a yellow cloth, and the map is spread out on it. The background shows a building and some trees.

Tell me how you keep me  
safe not how you put in  
**PROTECTIVE MEASURES.**



**INTERVENTIONS** makes me feel like I have something wrong with me, instead can you say what we are going to be working on together to help me.



**Participation in in-house activities?**

I was just playing games in my house.

**Instead of using  
these words, please  
explain to me what  
they mean...**

**Historically**

**At  
present  
time**

**COMMENCE**

**EXPERIMENTING**

*Strategies*

**Detailed  
record**

**IDENTIFY**

**IDEATION**

*Facilitate*

**Appropriate  
use of**

**CAMPUS**

*Focused  
discussions*

**Observations**

**FOR  
PERSONAL  
USE**





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