

# SELF-CARE TOOLKIT

**MHELO**

MENTAL HEALTH EXPERIENCE LED OPPORTUNITIES



**Pick me up  
whenever you're  
feeling stressed-out,  
out of control,  
anxious or  
just need a  
bit of a boost!**

Registered charity number: 1171559

**INCLUSION  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

BIGGER DREAMS ► BETTER LIVES ► BRIGHTER FUTURES



# MHELO

**Mental. Health. Experience.  
Led. Opportunities.**

MHELO is a project within Inclusion Gloucestershire. It is an independent network for people in Gloucestershire to have a collective voice.

We exist to ensure that the voice of our experts by experience is heard.

We are a user-led network of individuals who want to speak about their experiences of mental ill health, and services, within Gloucestershire to bring about change.

Your experience and views are what empowers the VOICE of the present, and the future, of Mental Health in Gloucestershire.

This self-care toolkit was made with members of MHELO and the wider community to share what has worked for them, and to empower the people of Gloucestershire. It is to aid you in creating your own personal plan for your self-care journey.

**Get involved!**



**[www.inclusiongloucestershire.co.uk/engagement](http://www.inclusiongloucestershire.co.uk/engagement)**



**[mhelo@inclusion-glos.org](mailto:mhelo@inclusion-glos.org)**



**[@mhelo\\_glos](https://www.instagram.com/mhelo_glos)**



**[mhelogloucestershire](https://www.facebook.com/mhelogloucestershire)**



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**Just remember -  
it's not your job to be everything to everybody**

# First things first.

**This is about you.**



Often, we are so busy that we forget to carve out time for ourselves.

To sit and take a minute to reflect on what's been going on and why we might be feeling, tired, stressed, anxious, angry, upset, sad or any number of other things.

Our toolkit is designed to give you the space to think about what works for you, and how to develop techniques that you can use in your everyday life, to better your mental health.

To understand what works for you, the first step is having time to think about yourself.

This first part of the toolkit is exactly for that. Some time for you to start thinking about you.

You can fill this in in your own time, at your own pace. We have designed it so you can dip in and out when it suits you.

We know that this isn't accessible to all. Please seek support in being able to complete this if needed.

# The importance of sharing

**Your self-care doesn't just include you.**

Keep everyone else who supports you in the loop, share this plan with others.

Who else is involved in your self-care and who do you need to share this with?

**Write their names and numbers.**



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# Your roadmap to recovery

## First Stop

Friend, family member

## Second Stop

Your GP

## Third Stop

Community Mental Health Team

## Fourth Stop

Crisis Team/Crisis Support

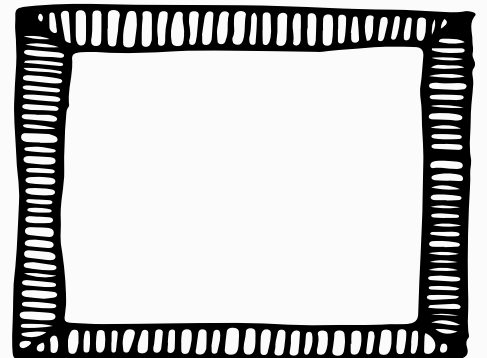
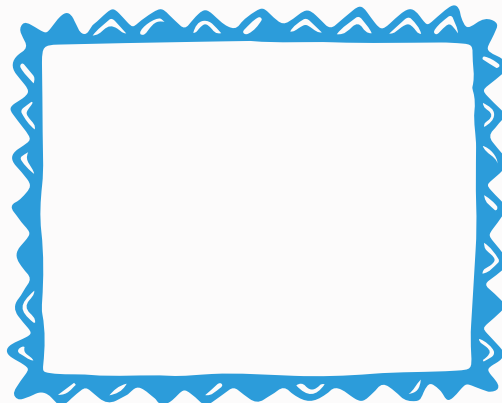
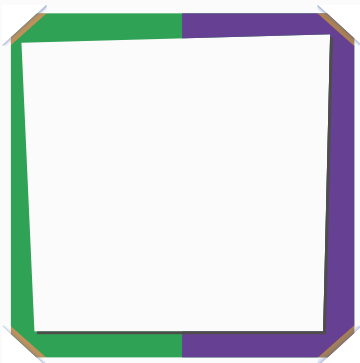
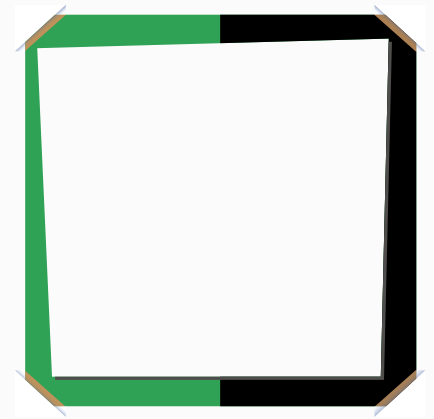
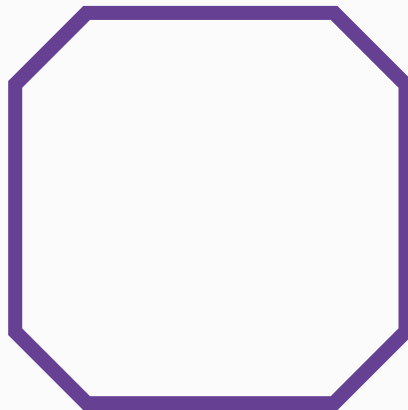
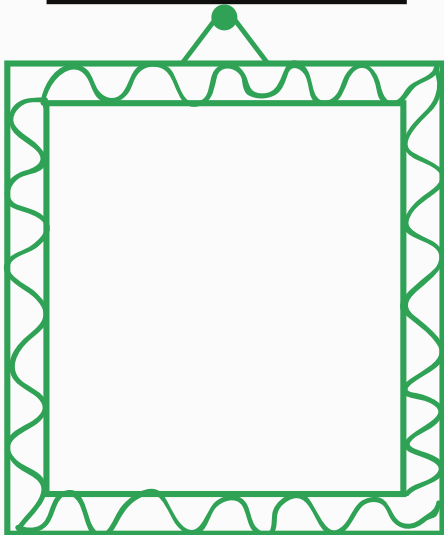
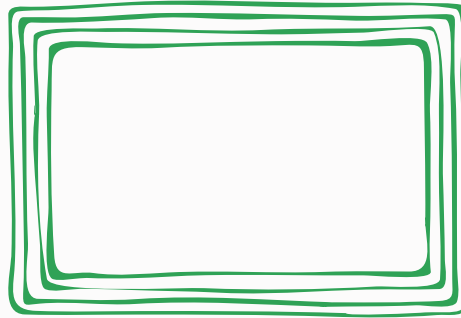
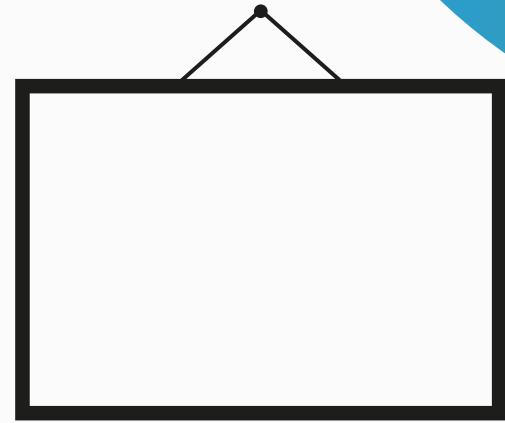
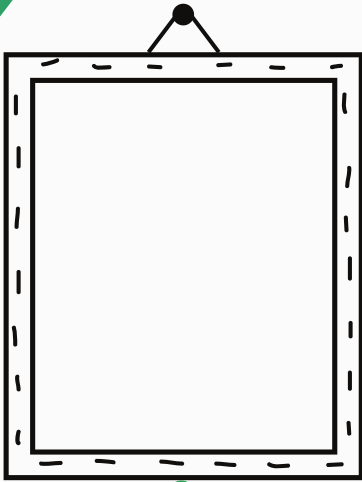
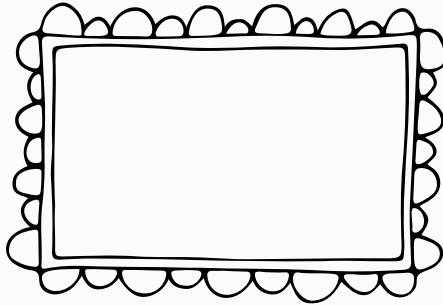
**Complete this with  
contact details  
for your support  
points**



# All about you


**This is your self-care toolkit.  
This is for you. No one else.**

Use the frames to describe yourself in 10 positive words





# 10 interesting facts about you

- \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
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  - \_\_\_\_\_
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**How I feel**  
**(a)**

**How I want to feel**  
**(b)**

**Action to take me**  
**from**  
**(a) to (b)**

Try this out on a separate sheet or paper,  
or a journal, to give you more space.

# Coping Skills

## Positive

- Deep breathing
  - Stretching
  - Meditation
- Listening to music
  - Exercising
  - Reading
- Going for a walk
  - Taking a bath
- Socialising with friends
- Sitting outside and relaxing
  - Engaging in a hobby



## Negative

- Yelling
  - Acting aggressively
  - Overeating
- Drinking too much alcohol
  - Smoking
  - Pacing
- Biting your fingernails
  - Taking drugs
  - Skipping meals
- Withdrawing from family/friends
- Dangerous driving





# Your Coping Skills

**Be honest with yourself when evaluating your current behaviours!**

**Which strategies do you use?**

**Positive**

**Negative**

**Find yourself  
lashing out?**

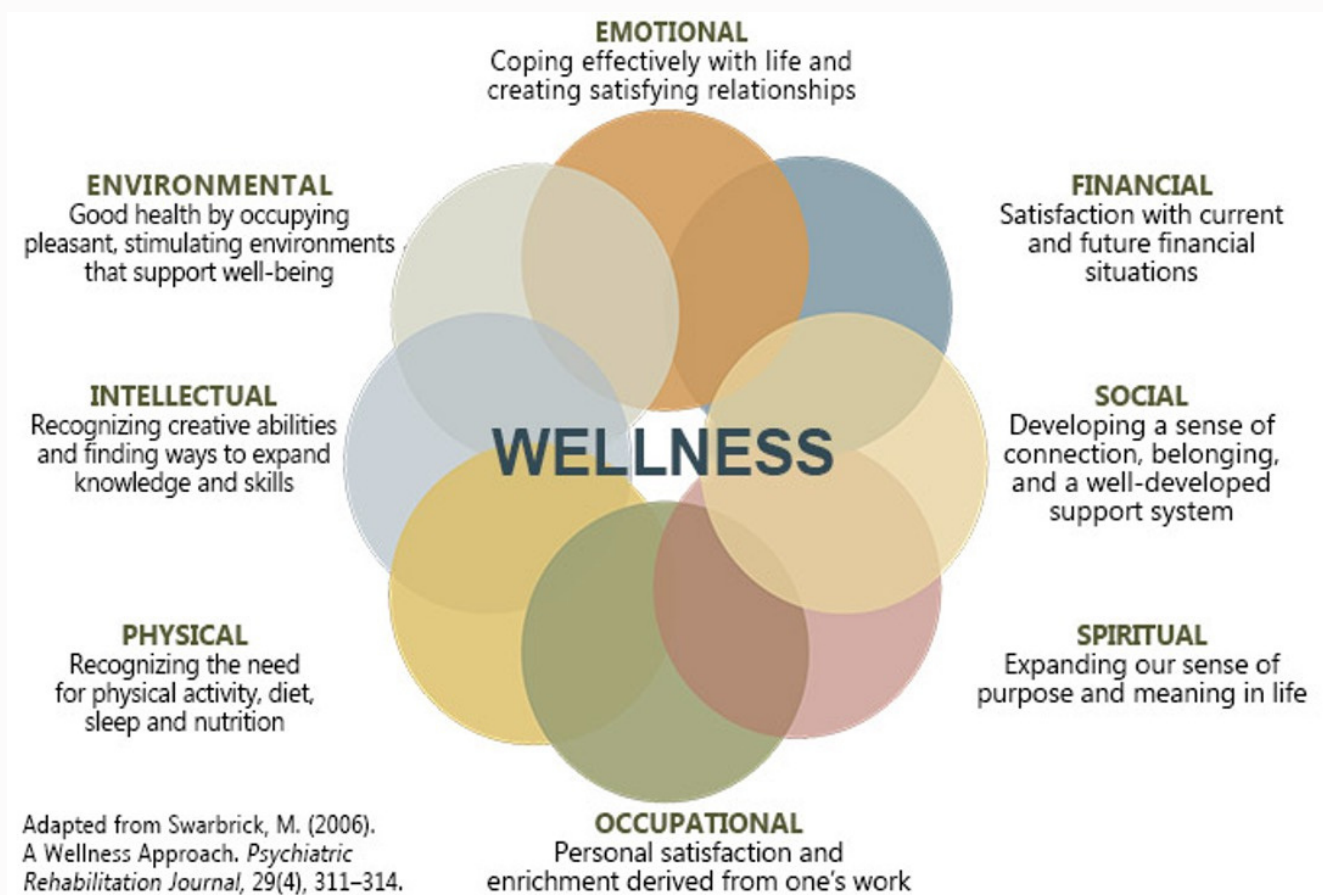
**It may be time to  
re-evaluate your  
coping skills.**

# Identify Your Self-Care Needs

We are all faced with unique challenges and no two people have the same self-care needs.

Remember that self-care extends far beyond your basic physical needs.

Think about your psychological, emotional, spiritual, social, financial, and workplace well-being.



# Identify Your Self-Care Needs

**Using the wellness wheel in the previous page think about what your self care needs are.**

What do you value and need in your everyday life - daily self-care needs?

e.g. rest, a place to be creative....



What do you value and need in the event of a crisis - emergency self-care needs?

e.g. emotional support from family, a safe refuge....



# Five ways to well-being

There are so many ways to think about self-care and what works for you. We thought we would put it into the 5 ways of wellbeing as a way for you to start thinking about what you can start doing to look after number one. You.

These 5 areas we hope will start to give you some idea of how to build your toolkit, and we hope that as you do more of the exercises, and read more of our stories, you'll find new and better ways to make that work for you.





# Be active

“During this last year of lockdowns, I have discovered resistance training, which has helped me with both my physical and mental health; it has boosted my mood and gave me body confidence.”

Ines

But being active isn't all about going to the gym or doing press ups! Walking or moving about regularly is also a way of being active.

**Have a go!**

**Think of 5 different ways to get moving**



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# Thoughts from the community

“When practicing yoga sometimes moving very slowly, sometimes a little more dynamically depending on my energy. Focusing on really small movements and feeling into the body and breath takes me into a greater sense of awareness.”

**Emma**

Before doing any new physical activity please ensure you consult a health professional if you have any concerns.

## **Child's Pose**

Kneel on the floor with a cushions/pillows or rolled/folded blankets vertically in front of you. Keeping the toes together, let the knees spread apart wide and lengthen your torso and arms forward over your cushions with your head turned to one side, then turn your head the opposite way halfway through the time you're taking here.



## **Reclined Butterfly**

Place a pile of pillows or cushions on the floor, then lie down on your back onto the pillows (you may want an extra cushions or folded blanket under your head). Bring the soles of your feet together and allow your knees to move apart adding as much additional support (cushions etc) as you need under the outside edges of your knees/thighs.

## **Legs Up The Wall**

Place some pillows horizontally a few inches from the wall. Sit on the floor and turn onto your right side, propping yourself up with your hands. Arrange your lower back on the pillows. Lift your legs up and inch up closer to the wall until the back of your legs rest on the wall. Adjust your position on the pillows so that the lower back feels lifted and supported. You may want to place a folded blanket under the neck and head.



# Thoughts from the community

“Sometimes even yoga teachers don’t know what to do when they arrive on their mat so to help me shift some energy and get into my body and out of my head, I find these techniques super helpful. Literally just tapping the whole of my body with my hands and then having a good old shake out, even a minute of this can make a real difference. ‘When in doubt shake it out’ is a motto I live by at the best of times!”

**Emma**



**Have a go!**

**Make a playlist of songs which you can shake it out to.**



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# Connect

Human connection is such a wonderful tool.

Sounds simple, but it's so powerful.

How else can we know that we are not alone in the world unless we connect with each other?

“We all need somebody to talk to. It would be good if we talked.... not just pitter-patter, but real talk. We shouldn't be so afraid, because most people really like this contact; that you show you are vulnerable makes them free to be vulnerable.” – Liv Ullmann

## Have a go!

**Make a list of all the people you chat to.**

(this can be anyone from the postman  
to the cashier at the corner shop!)



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# Thoughts from the community

"My Christian faith has been a massive help to me at this time."

**Ines**

"My Church is hugely important for my sense of community and gives me a way to connect with other people."

**Jackie**



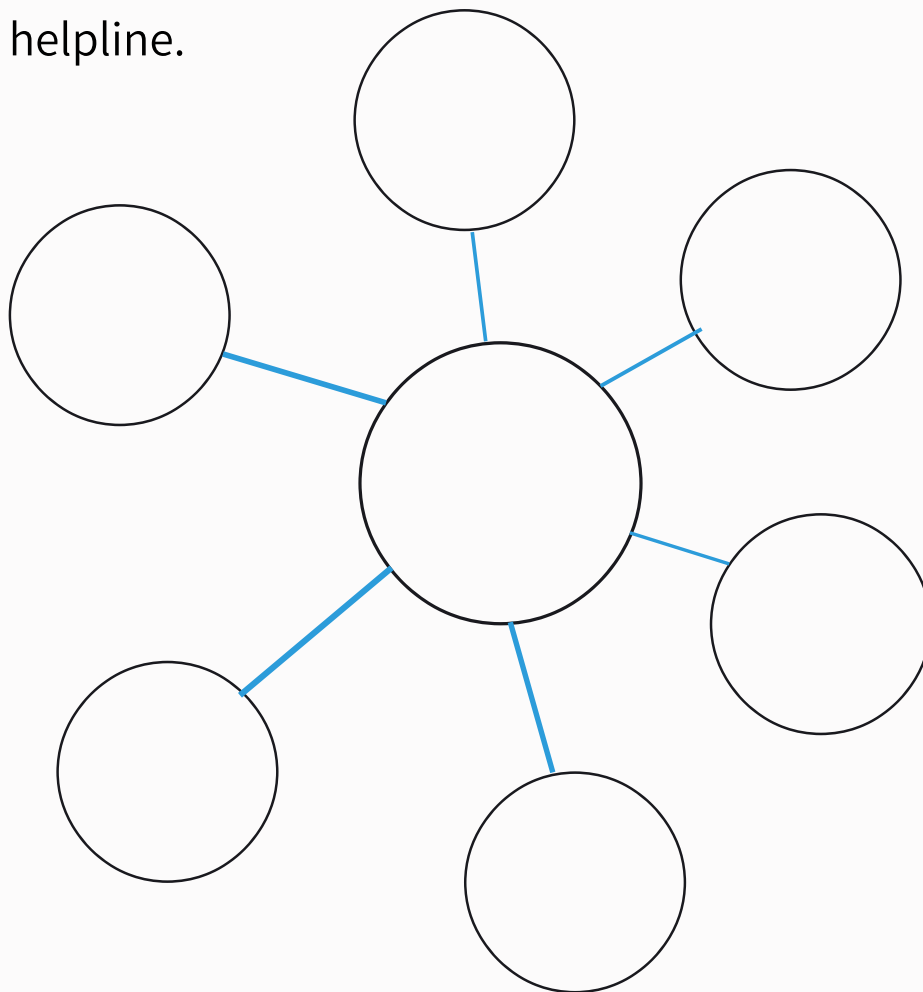
# Who you can talk to

**Have a go!**

**Put yourself in the middle of the circle.**

Create a spider diagram of all the people in your life that you might be able to turn to for help or advice, or just talk to if you had a problem or were feeling down.

You can add external sources such as the Samaritans helpline.



# Thoughts from the community

**One simple way to ease a burden:  
share it with others.**

“Ask for help!

I can't deal with the supermarket shopping, and am getting the assistance of my mother coming round with me.

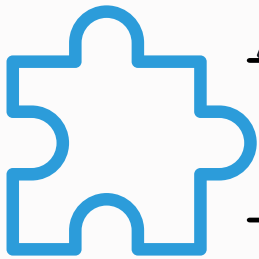
I didn't think to ask, but after the second time of ending up distressed (out of two) she said we'd do it that way.”

**Max**



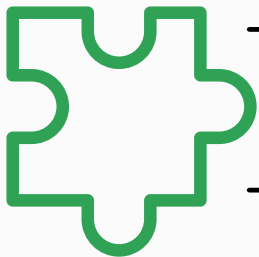
# What's missing?

What support  
do **you** need



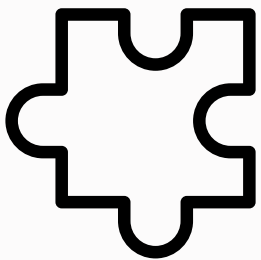
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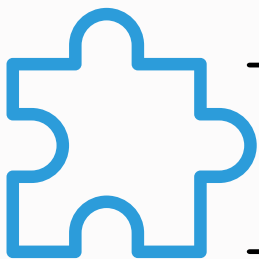
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# Thoughts from the community

"In one session with a counsellor that I had at the time, she asked me to imagine myself standing on a station platform. She said she could see me struggling to carry very heavy suitcases. Each of those cases contained a different trauma – abuse, anxieties and so on – that was weighing me down.

She encouraged me to draw a picture of myself, and to add suitcases, writing on each one the many things that were making me anxious.

I lost count of how many there were.

After this the counsellor asked me to close my eyes, to imagine trying to carry all the cases at once, and then to let them go, walking away and leaving them where they were.

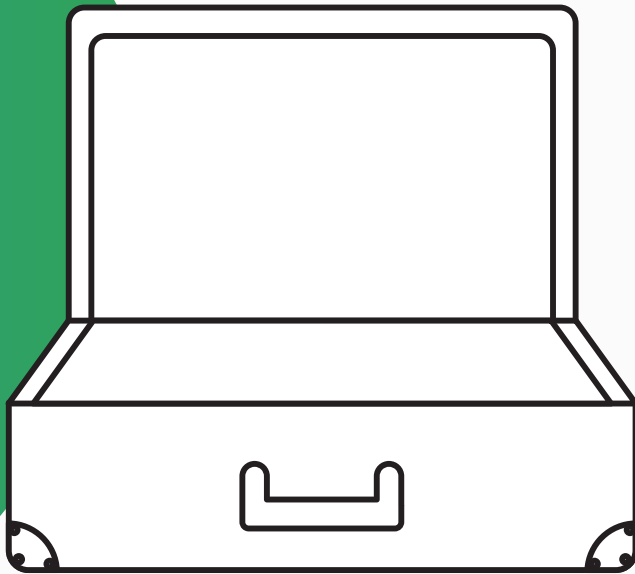
The idea was not to walk away and not pick any of them up again, that would be impossible, but to pick one up at a time, to open it, look inside, and deal with whatever the anxiety or problem was. I have done this many, many times since that day, as I am quick to try and pick them all up. The release you feel when you drop the cases is immense, and I have encouraged others to use this exercise many times since then."

**Jane**



# Easing the load

**Fill the suitcases with different things that are making you feel anxious**



**Once they are full,  
close your eyes.**

**Take each suitcase and  
close each one firmly shut.**

**When you are in a comfortable space,  
open up each one and think  
about its contents.**

**ONLY OPEN ONE AT A TIME**



# Be Kind

## Don't forget about being kind to yourself!

It's important that what we do for others, we also do for ourselves. You do this by being kind to yourself.

Self-kindness can also be called self-compassion; being your own best friend.

How you use it really depends on you.

Are you struggling with critical thoughts and want to remind yourself of nice things?

Or perhaps you really need a pick-me-up like a treat.

Imagine if your friend was upset. You would try to find what would help them feel better, and do kind things for them.





# Be Kind

Have a go!

**Take a 2-minute self-appreciation  
break every day this week.**

Slow down, take a break and answer this question:

What are 3 things I can say to be kind to myself?

Write 6 examples below to help you with this practise.

Examples, 'Let whatever you do today be enough', 'I don't  
have to change myself' or 'I am good enough'.



# Give

According to research from Emory University, when you are kind to another person, your brain's pleasure and reward centers light up. It's as if you were the recipient of the good deed and not the giver.

This phenomenon is called the “helper’s high”.

There are many different ways you can be kind to another!



## Have a go!

**Try some of these and see how it feels.**

Offer to take your neighbours bins in for them.

Offer to buy something from the shop for your housemate or partner

Making a card for someone just to say they are special.

# Thoughts from the community

“For me, it's really rewarding to be able to give people something.

It's really satisfying to be able to think about what a person might like or need and show them in a gift.

It makes me feel really positive knowing that I've made a difference to someone's day, even if it's just something really small.”

**Jane**



# Have a go!

## **How about giving someone a gratitude box?**

The gratitude box is a thoughtful way to share your feelings with loved ones and cultivate your own sense of gratitude.

On the paper, write down a heartfelt message of gratitude to your loved one.

If you're not sure how to start, here are some suggestions to begin your message

- 1) "Thank you for..."
- 2) "What I love about you..."
- 3) "My holiday wish for you..."

You can also collect messages from others about your loved one, to pack the box with multiple messages of gratitude and love.

Place the message(s) into the box, wrap it up or put a bow on it, and give it to your loved one as a special gift, to both your loved one and yourself.

# Self Acceptance

**It can be a real challenge to accept yourself as you are now, to recognise that who you are in this present moment, is enough.**

“Because one believes in oneself, one doesn’t try to convince others. Because once one is content with oneself, one doesn’t need others’ approval. Because one accepts oneself, the whole world accepts him or her.” — Lao Tzu



# Self Acceptance

**Have a go!**

**List 5 things which make you who you are,  
that make you feel content.**

They can be about your great taste in food or clothes, something you are proud of that you have achieved, something which you know you can do well, strong work ethic or the ability to have positive friendships.

Some examples could be:

I am kind and caring

I have a positive influence on others around me.

I am resilient and adaptable

I know that in difficult times I can find ways to cope.

I am creative and enjoy making things for my own pleasure.



# Keep Learning

“It can be really stressful and have a negative impact on my mental health to set myself goals or be too caught up with needing to succeed.

But for me I know that keeping my brain active is really important.

It’s less about the goals and the needing to have something done, it’s more about being able to keep my brain alive with new thoughts and ideas.

For me, learning new things without a set goal in mind has a really positive impact and keeps me going even if it’s just little things along the way”

Jo



# Keep Learning

Have a go!

**Think about 5 different things that you would like to learn.**

There could be all sorts of different things. It could be a new recipe, a new skill like knitting or crochet, circus skills or yoga, learning how to grow vegetables or doing some training. Maybe you want to know more about mental health or learn a new language.



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# Resources Page



[www.futurelearn.com](http://www.futurelearn.com)  
A huge range of online courses.



[www.makebox.com](http://www.makebox.com)  
For packs to learn a new craft skill.



[www.bbcgoodfood.com](http://www.bbcgoodfood.com)  
A huge range of new recipes.



[www.instructables.com](http://www.instructables.com)  
A huge amount of all sorts of things!!

## Local things to try



THE  
MUSIC  
WORKS



# Creativity

**Tapping in to creative energy can improve your overall health.**

It might sound too good to be true but by doing creative things, even as simple as colouring books, improves brain function and mental and physical health.



**Let the ideas flow.**

The more you can let go of getting things perfect or overthinking then the more creative you are and the more ideas you have.

You can use this idea in lots of different areas of life, but try the exercise on the next page to get you started.

# Thoughts from the community

“I’ve always found songwriting really helps with my mental health – it keeps me relaxed when I need it to, and give me a way to vent when things are tough.

I love being creative, and I’ve bought a new microphone and audio interface to do some recording from home which is definitely a work in progress!

This didn’t cost too much, and has really helped recently – I think recording once I get used to the software, it’ll be the beginning a nice little project for lockdown.”

**Dan**

**Have a go!**  
**Are you musical?**  
Could you do  
something similar?



# Take Notice

**We spend so much time moving around being busy, or being in the same space over and over again that we forget to stop and take notice of our surroundings.**

How many times have you seen a sunset and not stopped to take it how beautiful it is?





# Take Notice

## Have a go!

**If you see something that moves you, and then snap it, you keep a moment.” —Linda McCartney**

Go out and try some mindful photography, just with your phone if you don't have a camera.

Just take a moment to soak it in and keep it as a photograph in your head.

Be present don't focus on the shot you just took, or the one you might take if only the sun would drop behind the tree.

Be aware of the moment you are in and respectfully give it your full attention.



# Thoughts from the community

“When a challenge comes, it’s good to know the moment will pass and things will get better.  
Don’t let a moment become a setback. ”

Andy

Have a go!

**Write down all the things you have achieved in the last 5 years, or things you can be proud of.**

It can be as small as being able to get out of bed 2 days in row or being able to speak to a friend when you needed it.



# Thoughts from the community

“Connect with nature, however you can, with whatever you have.

Not everyone has a garden but if you have or can get somewhere to feel your feel on the actual earth, smell some flowers, hug a tree, sit quietly outside, there is no better medicine.”

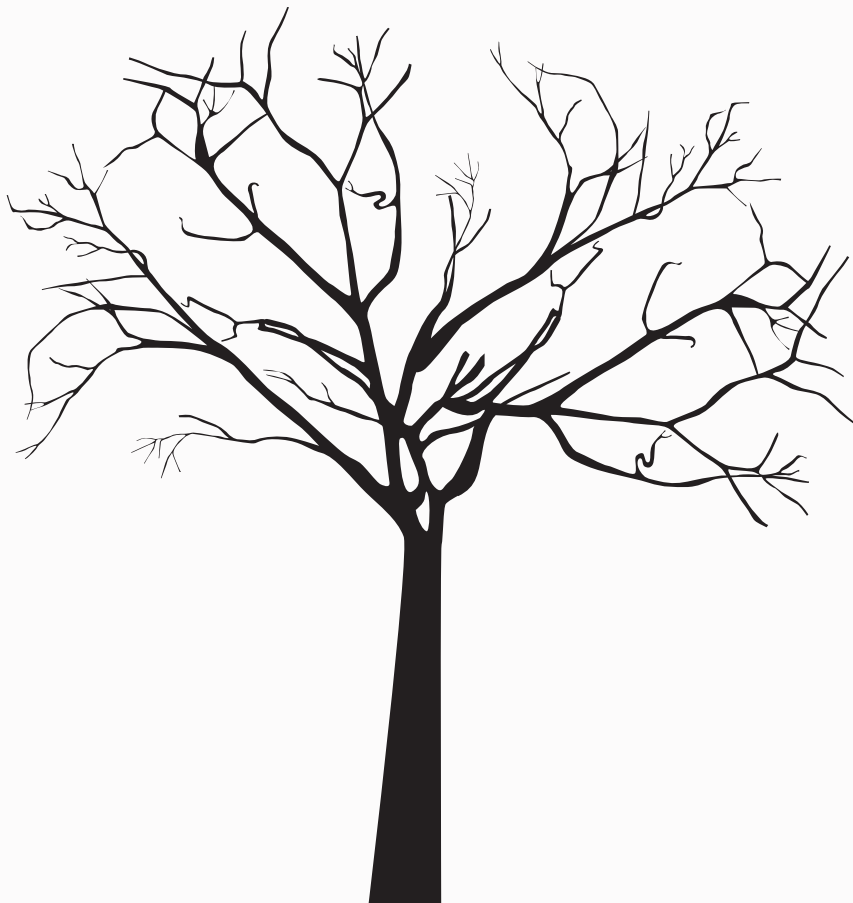
**Meg**



# Thoughts from the community

Have a go!

**Take a walk outside, sit in the garden or look out the window. List as many things from nature that you can see and add it to the end of the branches**





# Thoughts from the community

“Someone once said to me whatever it is you are worried or stressed about take a moment and ask yourself, 'will this matter in 5 years time'?

If the answer is yes, then take 5 minutes now to think about it.

If not then forget about it. This stops me from worrying about absolutely everything and only the things that matter.”

Izzy

## Have a go!

**Take a piece of paper and take a moment to think about what you worried and stressed about.**

Write down all the things that you're worried about that will matter in 5 years time.

Then screw up the piece of paper and throw it in the bin.



# Barriers and Areas for Improvement

**Think about the existing coping strategies and self-care tools you have used so far.**

**What is working?**

e.g. I found the mindful photography really useful and really like the photos I've taken.



**What is not working?**

e.g. I get stressed about having to exercise regularly.



Keep the helpful tools and ditch the stuff that does not help you!

# Barriers and Areas for Improvement

**Think about**

**Are there barriers to maintaining your self-care?**

e.g. I find it difficult to talk to people when I'm feeling down.



**How might you address these barriers?**

e.g. I can write things down and share it with others. Or I can remind myself that something little will make me feel better and start small.

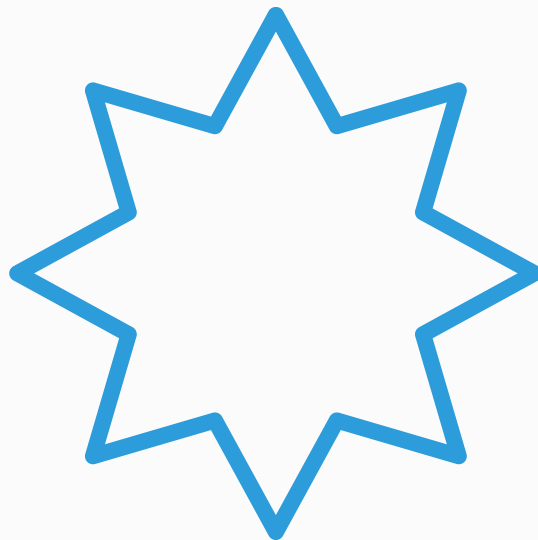


If you find yourself using negative strategies, then begin by choosing one action you feel is most harmful and identify a positive strategy to replace it.

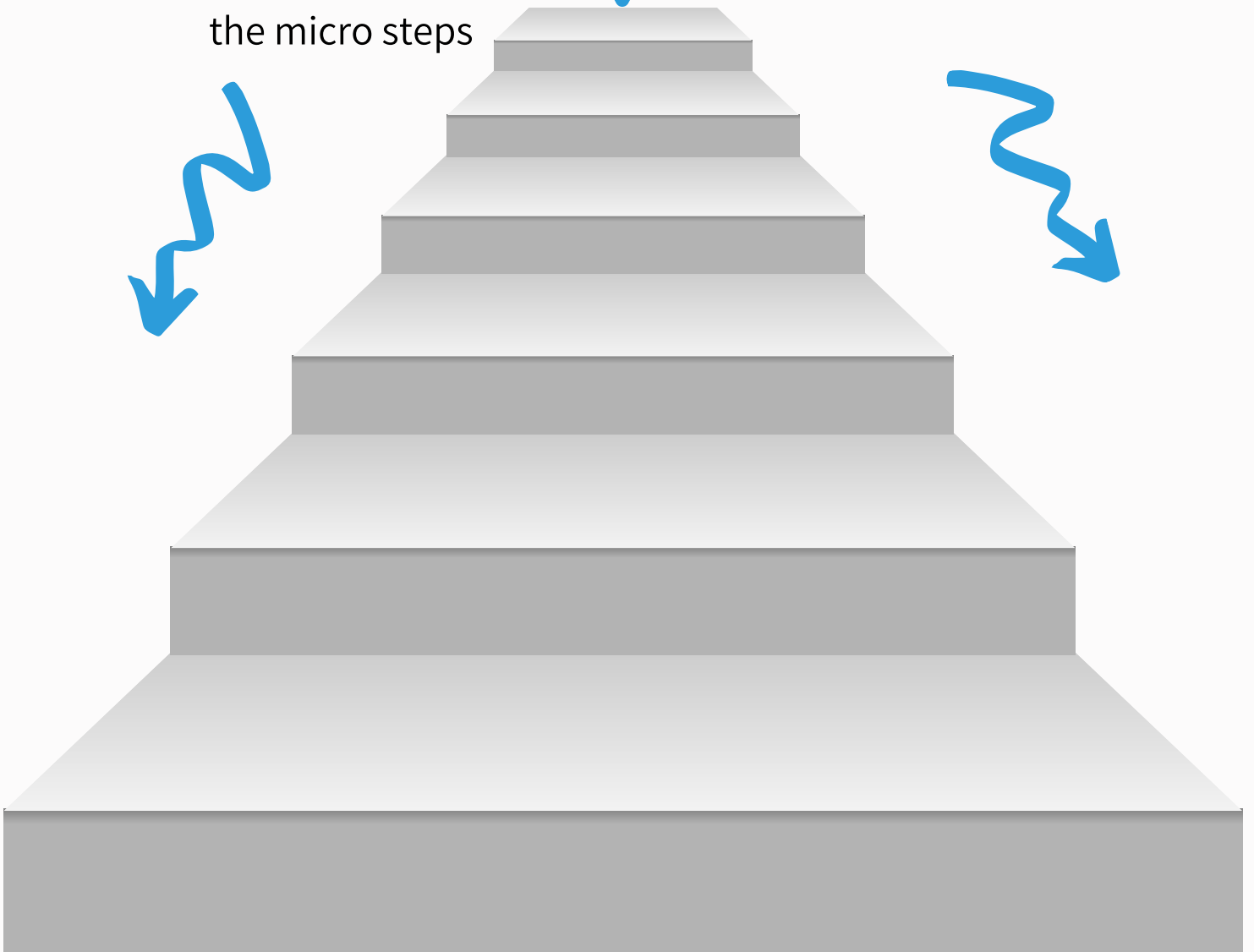
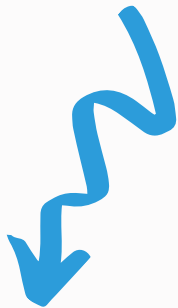
# Over To You

**Use these worksheets and resources to devise your own self-care plan.**

**Your Goal**



the micro steps

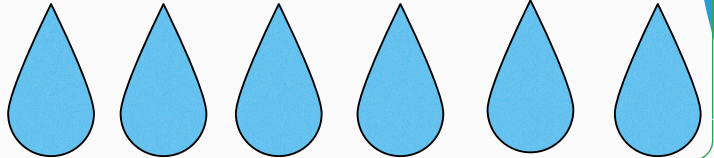


# Over To You

## Day Plan

**To do**

**Drinks**



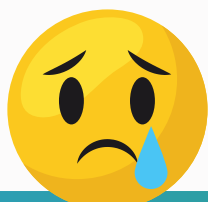
**Sleep**

**The Best Bit**

**The Worst Bit**

**Self-Care Shenanigans**

**Overall Feeling**



# My Self-Care Declaration

**I promise to:**

**I will remember to:**

**At all times, particularly in times of  
uncertainty and stress, I will:**

**I will try my absolute hardest to:**

**I will choose kindness. *Always.***

**Signed:**

# Self Care Calendar

Try planning ahead.

Action For Happiness have some great examples of calendars for self-care for the month.



## ACTION CALENDAR: MINDFUL MARCH 2021



### MONDAY

1 Set an intention to live with awareness and kindness

8 Eat mindfully. Appreciate the taste, texture & smell of your food

15 Stop, breathe and just notice. Repeat regularly during the day

22 Walk a different route today and see what you notice

29 Notice what is working today and be thankful that this is so

### TUESDAY

2 Notice five things that are beautiful in the world outside

9 Take a full breath in and out before you reply to others

16 Get really absorbed with an interesting or creative activity

23 Tune in to your feelings, without judging or trying to change

30 Mentally scan down your body and notice what it is feeling

### WEDNESDAY

3 Start today by appreciating your body and that you're alive

10 Get outside and notice how the weather feels on your face

17 Look around and spot 3 things you find unusual or pleasant

24 Appreciate your hands and all the things they enable you to do

31 Notice the joy to be found in the simple things of life

### THURSDAY

4 Notice how you speak to yourself. Try to use kind words

11 Stay fully present while drinking your cup of tea or coffee

18 If you find yourself rushing, make an effort to slow down

25 Focus your attention on the good things you take for granted

### FRIDAY

5 Take three calm breaths at regular intervals during your day

12 Listen deeply to someone and really hear what they are saying

19 Cultivate a feeling of loving-kindness towards others today

26 Notice when you're tired and take a break as soon as possible

### SATURDAY

6 Bring to mind people you care about and send love to them

13 Pause to just watch the sky or clouds for a few minutes today

20 Celebrate the International Day of Happiness [dayofhappiness.net](http://dayofhappiness.net)

27 Have a device-free day and enjoy the space it offers

### SUNDAY

7 Have a 'no plans' day and notice how that feels

14 Find ways to enjoy any chores or tasks that need doing

21 Listen to a piece of music without doing anything else

28 Appreciate nature around you, wherever you are

"Mindfulness means that we commit fully in each moment to be present" - Jon Kabat-Zinn



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS



[www.actionforhappiness.org](http://www.actionforhappiness.org)

Learn more about this month's theme at [www.actionforhappiness.org/mindful-march](http://www.actionforhappiness.org/mindful-march)

Happier · Kinder · Together



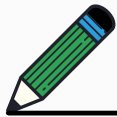
# Self Care Calendar

Have a go!

S E L F - C A R E - C A L E N D A R							
#anote2self	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SN
I will show myself love by:							
I am worthy because:							
I am deserving of:							
I will treat myself to:							
Dear Self, You are:							

# My Emergency Self-Care Plan

**List your top five emergency self-care practices.**



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**List five practises, people, places, or things to avoid during times of crisis or stress.**



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Now that you have created your self-care plan, look at it regularly. It takes time to form good habits. Make a commitment to yourself and practice your self-care routine as often as possible – you are worth it.

# Who to talk to – National Crisis Support



116 123 | [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org) | [www.samaritans.org/](http://www.samaritans.org/)  
24/7 listening support via email and phone call.

Supporting individuals who are in a mental health crisis from  
aged 11 upwards. Available 24/7.

0800 169 0398



here for you 24/7

Text 'shout' to 85258 | [giveusashout.org](http://giveusashout.org)

You can text us any time, day or night.

Your messages with us are confidential and anonymous.

It is free to text Shout 85258 from all major mobile networks  
in the UK.

National - Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM)

0800 58 58 58 | [www.thecalmzone.net/](http://www.thecalmzone.net/)

A leading movement against male suicide.

Helpline and webchat – 7 hours a day, 7 days a week.



# Who to talk to in Gloucestershire

These are subject to change. Please visit individual websites or contact them directly for up to date information.

Be Well Gloucestershire is a local campaign supported by the county's NHS and care organisations aimed at promoting health and wellbeing support and information to help when those challenges become hard to deal with.

Visit [www.bewellglos.org.uk](http://www.bewellglos.org.uk) for a huge list of local and national resources.



# Who to talk to – Local Crisis Support

Gloucestershire  
Self Harm Helpline



0808 801 0606 | Text: 07537 410 022 |

[www.gloucestershireselfharm.org](http://www.gloucestershireselfharm.org)

For people who self harm, their families and carers.

Telephone, web chat and text support

5:00pm-10:00pm daily.

## **Crisis Team**

Supporting individuals who are in a mental health crisis  
from aged 11 upwards. Available 24/7.

0800 169 0398

- Option 1 for Stroud and Cotswolds
- Option 2 for Gloucester and Forest
- Option 3 for Cheltenham, Tewkesbury and North Cotswolds

[www.ghc.nhs.uk/crisis](http://www.ghc.nhs.uk/crisis)

## **Suicide crisis**

Offering a safe space providing support and  
help through crisis.

Open 24 hours a day for people at high risk  
of suicide based in Cheltenham.

Suicide crisis and trauma centre.

07975 974455. [www.suicidecrisis.co.uk](http://www.suicidecrisis.co.uk).

# Ongoing well-being and counselling



Alexandra  
Wellbeing  
House

Alexandra Wellbeing House

01452 245338 [admin@sgmind.org.uk](mailto:admin@sgmind.org.uk)

[www.sgmind.org.uk/the-alexandra/](http://www.sgmind.org.uk/the-alexandra/)

Gloucestershire Telephone Wellbeing Support.

Weekly telephone calls plus safety and support planning using the Five Ways to Wellbeing. Accepting new referrals from NHS teams and voluntary sector organisations.



Free, anonymous online counselling and self-help resources.

[www.qwell.io/](http://www.qwell.io/)



0300 323 0160. | [www.mhm.org.uk/](http://www.mhm.org.uk/)

For adults 18 and over. 24 hour phone and web chat for emotional support and signposting to services.

# Ongoing well-being and counselling



[www.gloscounselling.org.uk/](http://www.gloscounselling.org.uk/) 01453 766310.

[info@gloscounselling.org.uk](mailto:info@gloscounselling.org.uk)

Offers affordable counselling. You can self-register via the Gloucestershire Counselling Service website for adults, children, young people and family counselling.



01452 383820 [lpostcounselling@listeningpost.org.uk](mailto:lpostcounselling@listeningpost.org.uk)

[www.listeningpost.org.uk](http://www.listeningpost.org.uk)

Provides affordable counselling to adults living in Gloucestershire who are suffering emotional and psychological distress.

You can self-register via their website.



IAPT (our Improving Access to Psychological Therapies)

0800 073 2200 | [www.talk2gether.nhs.uk](http://www.talk2gether.nhs.uk)

The service provides support for mental health conditions, such as anxiety and depression, PTSD and phobias.



# Ongoing well-being and counselling



## **Community Advice, Links, Mental Health Support (CALMHS)**

0345 8638323 or 01452 317460 | Text: 07812 067087 |

[www.independencetrust.co.uk/CALMHS](http://www.independencetrust.co.uk/CALMHS)

[info@independencetrust.co.uk](mailto:info@independencetrust.co.uk)

Offering those with moderate to severe mental ill health 1:1 support, personal support plans and signposting to other services. Phone, video call, text or email.

## **Community Wellbeing Service**

- Cheltenham and Tewkesbury - telephone: 0300 365 6463

- Cotswold - telephone: 01452 528491

- Gloucester - telephone: 0300 131 0024

- Forest of Dean - telephone: 01594 812447

- Stroud and Berkeley Vale - telephone: 0345 863 8323

Connecting people to local services, organisations and groups that can help improve general wellbeing and meet wider social needs. For anyone over 16

## **Independence trust**

Range of services to support in strengthening emotional and physical wellbeing

[www.independencetrust.co.uk](http://www.independencetrust.co.uk)

0345 86383. [info@independencetrust.co.uk](mailto:info@independencetrust.co.uk)

# Specialist Services



Supporting people to prevent homelessness  
and promote independence.

[www.ccp.org.uk](http://www.ccp.org.uk)

0300 365 8999 or 01242 228 999



**Change  
Grow  
Live**

Supporting people with alcohol and substance misuse,  
reducing, controlling or stopping your substance use.

[www.changegrowlive.org](http://www.changegrowlive.org)

01452 223014 or email [gloucestershire.info@cgl.org.uk](mailto:gloucestershire.info@cgl.org.uk).

# Specialist Services

## GDASS

Supporting victims of domestic abuse, [www.gdass.org.uk](http://www.gdass.org.uk)  
Helpdesk mon-fri 9-5pm 01452 726570  
[support@gdass.org.uk](mailto:support@gdass.org.uk)

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE  
RAPE &  
SEXUAL ABUSE  
SUPPORT** 

Providing emotional and practical support to both female and male victims and survivors of rape, sexual assault and childhood sexual abuse. [www.glosrasac.org](http://www.glosrasac.org)  
Helpline (01452 526770) is open Monday 12.00pm – 2.00pm  
Tuesday & Wednesday 6.30pm – 8.30pm  
[support@glosrasac.org.uk](mailto:support@glosrasac.org.uk)

# Specialist Services



Variety of support from social through the cavern, food, coffee, open mic nights etc. Mental health drop in, volunteering opportunities, development of life skills to those with complex needs.

[www.kftseekers.org.uk/01452307201](http://www.kftseekers.org.uk/01452307201)

[info:@kftseekers.org.uk](mailto:info:@kftseekers.org.uk)



**THE NELSON TRUST**

Offering community women's services around a range of issues from homelessness, substance misuse, domestic abuse, involvement with criminal justice. Services are trauma-informed and gender responsive providing holistic support for women and their families

Trauma informed residential addiction treatment

[www.nelsontrust.com](http://www.nelsontrust.com)

1453 885633

[office@nelsontrust.com](mailto:office@nelsontrust.com)

# Specialist Services



Cheltenham Open Door supports vulnerable, disadvantaged and lonely people. Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 9.30am to 1pm. Providing food, tea and coffee, showers, laundry and clothing or a space to talk to others.

[cheltenhamopendoor.org.uk](http://cheltenhamopendoor.org.uk)

01242 577418 [info@cheltenhamopendoor.org.uk](mailto:info@cheltenhamopendoor.org.uk)



An independent, local charity working in the community to support older people, their families and carers.

[www.ageuk.org.uk/gloucestershire](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/gloucestershire)

01452 422 660

[HelpTeam@ageukgloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:HelpTeam@ageukgloucestershire.org.uk)

# Signposting Services



Information about local health and social care services to help you find the care and support you need.  
[www.healthwatchgloucestershire.co.uk/our-work/advice-information/](http://www.healthwatchgloucestershire.co.uk/our-work/advice-information/)

01452 504989 or 0800 652 5193 (freephone)  
[info@healthwatchgloucestershire.co.uk](mailto:info@healthwatchgloucestershire.co.uk)



Providing free, confidential and impartial advice and campaign on big issues affecting people's lives such as benefits, work, debt, consumer, relationships, housing, discrimination, tax, healthcare education, law and rights.

01452 527202

Email advice form: [gloscab.org.uk/formcitizen](http://gloscab.org.uk/formcitizen)

# Signposting Services



An inclusive online directory and forum. It's the place to find social events, clubs, groups or places to visit.

[www.yourewelcomeglos.org](http://www.yourewelcomeglos.org)



A directory to help you find your way around care and support and connect with people, places and activities in Gloucestershire.

[www.yourcircle.org.uk](http://www.yourcircle.org.uk)



# Education and Training



Providing courses and educational workshops that teach people to become experts in their own recovery and self-care.

[www.swrecoverycollege.nhs.uk](http://www.swrecoverycollege.nhs.uk)

01452 894204

[recoverycollege@ghc.nhs.uk](mailto:recoverycollege@ghc.nhs.uk)



The Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Project is committed to help you move closer towards education, training or work, including self-employment.

[www.glosgem.org](http://www.glosgem.org)

01452 699741

[gem@ggtrust.org](mailto:gem@ggtrust.org)



Providing learning for individuals, employers and communities, and works in partnership with external organisations and other services across the Council.

[www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/adult-education-in-gloucestershire/](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/adult-education-in-gloucestershire/)

0800 542 1655

[learn@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:learn@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

# Art and Well-being



Art Shape runs a countywide programme of arts courses and projects with a specific focus on disability issues and social inclusion.  
[www.artshape.co.uk](http://www.artshape.co.uk)  
01452 863855. [info@artshape.co.uk](mailto:info@artshape.co.uk)



Specialists in working with young people in challenging circumstances to help them reach their full potential in music, in learning, and in life.  
[www.themusicworks.org.uk](http://www.themusicworks.org.uk)  
[info@themusicworks.org.uk](mailto:info@themusicworks.org.uk)



The Butterfly garden is an educational, therapeutic and recreational scheme. It is a project for people of all ages dealing with disablement of any kind.  
01452 713068. [www.thebutterflygarden.org](http://www.thebutterflygarden.org)



Paint It Yourself Pottery Co, Cheltenham  
Creative space to paint pottery as an individual or as a group. Choose an item of pottery from over 200 items and work with staff that will inspire you and help to plan your design which you can paint with our non-toxic ceramic paints.  
[www.piyp.co.uk](http://www.piyp.co.uk)  
01242 575700

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We always welcome feedback on the work we have done. If you would like to give feedback, please email us on [mhelo@inclusion-glos.org](mailto:mhelo@inclusion-glos.org).

**Thank you.**