

What is a guardian?



What is a guardian?



A guardian is a person who helps make decisions for you. They are the big decisions.



The decisions are about

- how to stay well. Like what new pills you need

and



- who you live with
- where you live.



The decisions may be about who helps you each day. Like

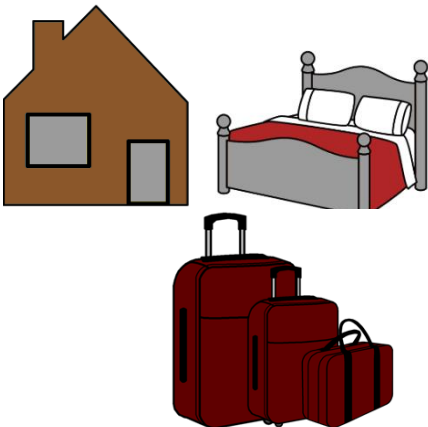
- help you to shop
- help you clean up
- help you cook meals.



A guardian can look after your money.

They give you some money each week.

You spend it on any thing you want.



They choose what big things you spend

money on. Like

- your rent
- new furniture
- a holiday.



Your guardian may ask what you think.



Your guardian may help you with 1 part of your life only. Like with your money.

Or



2 parts of your life. Like

- where you live

and

- help to stay well.

Or



The guardian may help with 3 parts of your life.

It is your

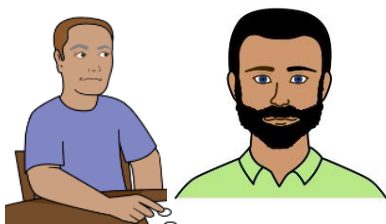
- money
- and**
- home
- and**
- help to stay well.



You can have 1 guardian.

They help with all your big decisions.

Or



You can have 2 guardians.

They work together to help you with big decisions.

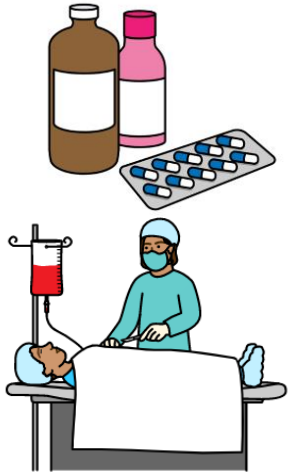


Help to stay well

You may have a guardian to help you stay well.

They can help you make choices on most things.

Like



- your doctor says you need some new pills
- your dentist says they need to operate on your teeth.



Why do you need a guardian?




It is hard for you to make big decisions in your life. Like

- you have a brain injury
- it is hard for you to learn things.
- it is hard for you to understand

Then

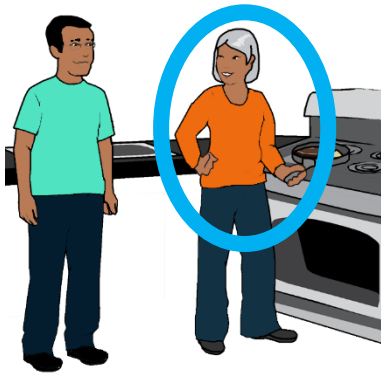


You may need a guardian.



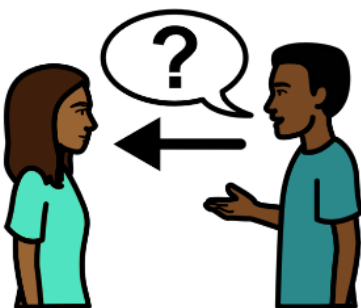
1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

How do you get a guardian?



Other people think you may need help to make big decisions. This is people who

- know you. It may be some family.
- care about you. It may be your doctor.



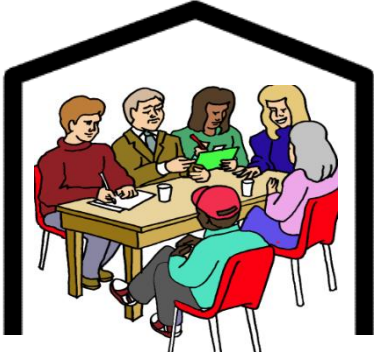
They may ask you

- do you need help with big decisions?

and



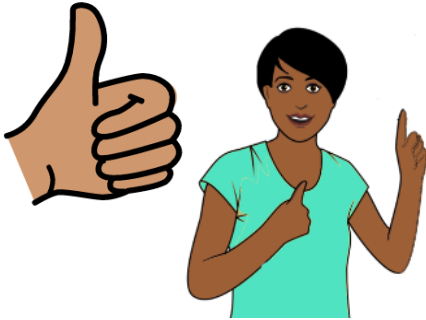
- who will be a good guardian for you?



There is a meeting. It is to talk about

- do you need help to make big decisions?
- who is a good person to help you?

The meeting is called a Tribunal.



It is good for you to go to the meeting.

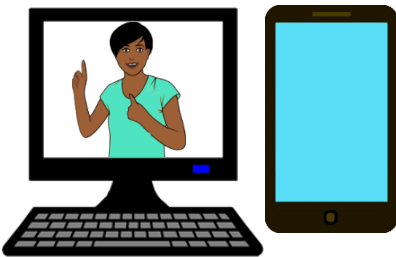
You can say what you think.



You can

- go to the meeting

or



- talk from your computer

or

- talk on the phone.



You can ask other people to go to the meeting with you. Like

- a person who knows the rules.

It may be a lawyer



- a person you trust. They help speak up for you.

It may be an advocate.



You do **not** have to go to the meeting.



You can ask a different person to speak for you.

It can be

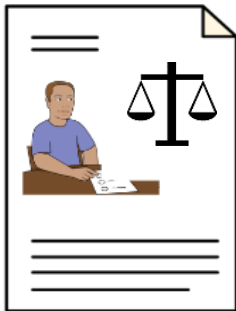
- a lawyer
- a person you trust
- your family.



You have the right to say you do not need anyone to help you. You do **not** want a guardian.



You have the right to say you want a different guardian.



After the meeting we write to you. We tell you

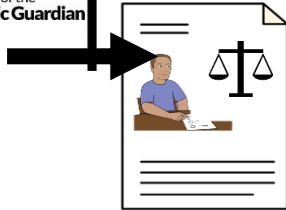
- you have a guardian
 - the name of your guardian
- and**
- what the guardian can do.

This is your legal paper.

We call it your Guardianship Order.



We send you a copy of your legal paper.
It comes with a letter.



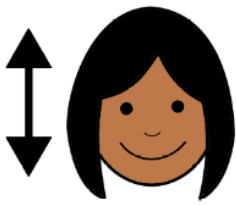
The Office of the Public Guardian sent you the
legal paper



The legal paper tells you when the rules start.
It tells you how long the rules will go for.



Now you have a guardian



You agree with the legal paper.

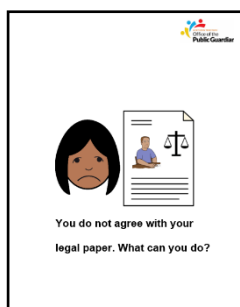
Your guardian helps you make your big decisions.

Or



You do **not** agree with the legal paper.

You can ask for a new meeting.

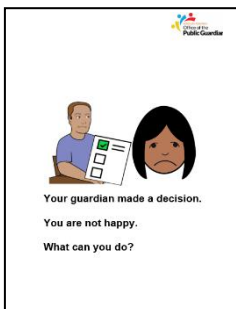


Read **You do not agree with your legal paper.**

What can you do?



More information



Your guardian made a decision.

You are not happy. What can you do?



You are not happy with your guardian.

Images

We have used images from



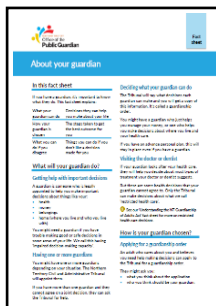
- Changepeople
- Inspired Services



- Picto-Selector
- Spectronics



- Tobii-Dynavox.



This fact sheet is based on About your guardian.

Office of the Public Guardian 2017.



Access Easy English wrote the Easy English.

June 2021.