# Drop-in Group Agreement

This Drop-In is a safe space where trans, nonbinary, intersex, gender-variant and gender-questioning people can meet each other and staff from the Sussex Gender Service to ask questions and seek information about the service. You can bring a friend or family member along if you need them there to support you - they must be able to follow our group agreement.

At these drop-ins, it expected that people will respect the the group's core values:

**Self-determination -** Respect, and do not make assumptions about, each other's different identities, pronouns, and experiences. This includes people's past medical history or gender/sex assigned at birth. Do not tell one another how to identify or present, or question someone's identity or expression.

**Acceptance, accessibility, and Inclusion -** Anyone who is trans, non-binary, intersex, gender-variant or gender-questioning is free to attend. This is regardless of their sex, including intersex variation, gender identity or expression or lack thereof, age, disability, learning difficulty, neurodiversity, race, ethnicity, nationality, immigration status, belief, religious belief of lack thereof, sexual orientation of lack thereof, pregnancy, maternity, marriage or civil partnership.

**Confidentiality -** Respect each other's right to confidentiality. Do not share the names or details of anyone attending the group with anyone outside of the group. Group facilitators will only share information about group members with external organisations when it is necessary to keep someone safe.

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**Safety -** Take responsibility for your language and behaviours and apologise should you cause any offence. The group facilitators will moderate the discussion and resolve any issues that arise. In rare circumstances where a person is intentionally homophobic, transphobic etc., towards another community member, that person will be asked to leave the group until the issue is resolved.

**Sensitive topics and content warnings -** Respect that other members of the community may find certain topics difficult and not want to participate in certain discussions for their own wellbeing. Please give content warnings before bringing up difficult topics. Please avoid excessive swearing or graphic descriptions of things such as sexual encounters, transphobic incidents, self-harm or suicide attempts. If you need to talk about one of these things, we encourage you to speak to a member of staff, we are happy to talk about anything with you on a one to one basis.

Our SGS Drop-in groups may not be the best place to bring discussions around intense suicidal feelings or safeguarding issues. You are welcome to request a 1-2-1 with one of the Care Navigators who will be able to signpost you to crisis support options.