

TIPS FOR SAFER DISCUSSION



Don't assume but ask if necessary. Don't ask for irrelevant or personal details.



Don't make sweeping generalisations on the basis of your own or anyone else's experiences.



Respect other people and their opinions even if they are different from yours.



Take all participants into account. Let everyone talk and be heard without interruption.



Don't attack other participants in the discussion – aggression is not useful to anyone and does not help the conversation to move forward.



Don't use slurs, i.e. offensive terms. Don't normalise or accept offensive language. Intervene firmly but gently and give your reason for doing so.



If you intervene in someone's offensive speech, don't blame or embarrass them, and don't preach. Explain why the language was inappropriate and why being respectful is important.



You don't need to put up with offensive language or discussion that you feel is unsafe. You always have the right to leave a threatening situation.



Be responsible for your own words. If you say something offensive, other people have the right to intervene. If this happens, learn from it.



Take part in discussion and intervene in unpleasant situations according to your resources. You are allowed to protect yourself and your well-being.

This list was curated from thoughts and comments given by young people during a free speech workshop.