

How to check in on someone

Helping others and providing support can make a difference for someone who is having problems and going through a tough time. If you think someone you care about isn't going so well, try the following tips on how to support them and continue to check in on them.



Talk

For most people, just asking if they are okay and listening can make a difference.

By simply being there for someone, they can feel less alone and more supported to open up and talk about how they are really feeling.

Asking open ended questions that require a response is a good way to start the conversation.

FOR EXAMPLE:

- How are you going? What's been happening in your life lately?
- You don't seem quite yourself lately, is something bothering you?
- You seem upset or worried, what's going on? Can I help with something?
- I've noticed you're not going out much lately, anything going on?



Listen

Just being there for someone and offering a listening ear can make a difference.

1. Show them that you care and are here to listen to them.
2. Have patience, let others talk and don't judge.
3. Be reflective by repeating what they have said.
4. Keep calm and accept that they may disagree with you.



Provide support

If the person you're concerned about is in a life threatening situation, or is at risk of harm to themselves or others, call 000.

Getting help early can make a difference. A good place to start is:

- Talk to your GP or someone you trust.
- Call a support line.
- Contact a support service.
- Try the Think Mental Health check-up tool.

They may also need your support while they look for professional help.



Do an activity together

Activities create conversation. Find an opportunity during everyday life activities to start the conversation and ask them how they are really feeling. Try doing activities together such as:



GOING FOR A WALK



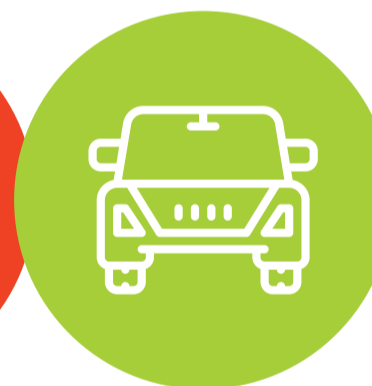
GOING TO AN EVENT TOGETHER



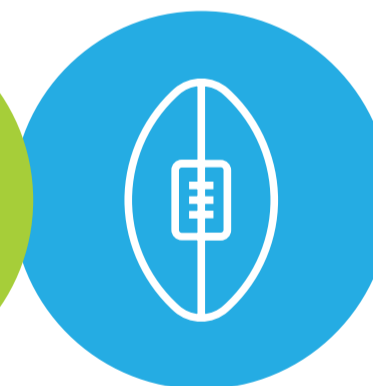
GOING FOR A COFFEE OR A MEAL



KICKING THE FOOTY, PLAYING A GAME, SURFING ETC



GOING FOR A DRIVE



ANYTHING THAT ENCOURAGES OR PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A CHAT


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