

What I Would Want Wall

This is information to help you host a “What would I want” wall.

What is a “What I would want” wall?

Based on the idea of an advance statement, the “What I would want” wall allows people to share what would be important for them at the end of life. It is a helpful way to show the diversity of needs and wishes within a community.



The wall provides an opportunity for people to share what they want and what is important to them and their identity. The conversation often naturally leads on to the things people would not want. Hearing and seeing what other people share can enable people to think more deeply about their own needs.

Written forms and legal jargon can be intimidating for some people so having something simple that everyone can contribute to (with help of interpreters when needed) provides an engaging and positive way in to discussions about end of life care.

How to host

To host the wall you will need:

1. “What I would want” wall sign
2. Coloured pens
3. Coloured post it notes or pieces of card with pegs and string
4. Printed information about the “What I would want” wall

The wall can easily be adapted according to the space available. It can be as simple as sticking post it notes to a wall or attaching cards to hanging string.

Some examples of things people have written are:

- *“is to die at home not hospital”*
- *“Halal food”*
- *“someone who speaks my language”*
- *“for my son to make decisions for me”*
- *“is not to be fed by a tube and to not be resuscitated”*



What next?

Once people have shared their wishes they could record these in an advance statement form. If they have spoken about treatments they would not want, they could also make an advance decision form. Both forms are free and available from Compassion in Dying:

- <https://compassionindying.org.uk/>
- 0800 999 2434
- info@compassionindying.org.uk