



SCAN QR TO
DISCOVER LOVE
IN PRACTICE
←

DANIELCROWLEYWRITES.CO.UK

We want a residential childcare sector where **love** is recognised as essential to quality, and every child has the opportunity to **love, be loved and thrive**.



THE PROBLEM

What are we missing when we measure quality?

Residential care rightly measures education, health, safeguarding, stability, incidents and progress. But some of the things that may matter most to children are much harder to record.

Do I feel wanted here?
Does someone notice me?
Will you still care about me when things go wrong?
Do I belong?

LOVE IN PRACTICE

What does love-led practice look like?
It can look remarkably ordinary:

A post-it note left on a lunchbox.
Remembering what matters to a child.
Adults and children saying "I love you."
An adult checking in from their own holiday.
Repairing a relationship after conflict.

These moments are difficult to put on a dashboard.
That does not make them insignificant.

RECORDS BELONG TO CHILDREN

We are challenging the language traditionally used in residential care records. If a record ultimately belongs to the child, it should preserve their dignity as well as documenting risk and professional decision-making.

We ask adults to write with the child in mind: accurately, honestly and without reducing them to incidents, behaviours or deficits.

WHY THIS MATTERS HERE

Our contribution is a practice-based challenge: alongside safety, progress, stability and outcomes, we should ask whether children experience relationships characterised by warmth, belonging, constancy and love.

Love-led practice does not compete with rigorous care. It asks us to broaden what we mean by rigorous care.

Perhaps the question is not only, "What outcomes did we achieve?" but, "Who did the child experience us to be?"