



Gaming Together Safeguarding Statement

Gaming Together is a volunteer-run group. It is not constituted, meaning that it is not a legal entity. No-one is 'in charge' of the group, however several regular volunteers work with children in their day to day place of work. The group is supported by Gloucestershire Parent Carer Forum.

We need to ensure that the session that takes place is safe and appropriate for our children and young people, and ensure that they are safe from harm, both whilst they are with us and when they are away from us. When you're at Gaming Together, you'll need to ensure that you pay attention to the well-being of the children and young people around you. This means looking out for any signs at all that they are not ok.

This could include, but is not limited to:

- A gamer telling you there is something wrong or something bad has happened.
- Something unusual in their appearance (having injuries, looking uncared-for, appearing upset, 'out-of-sorts' or fearful).
- Having unusual relationships, inappropriate to their age/development (e.g., meeting people from the internet, having a much older boyfriend/girlfriend, elements of control or bullying in the relationship) or being secretive.
- A sudden change in their usual behaviour.
- Sexual knowledge/language or acting-out, that is not appropriate to their age and/or understanding.

The term **Safeguarding** means doing our best to safeguard and protect children and young people from harm. Please make sure that while you are at Gaming Together, you are aware of those around you, and that anything that you are uncertain of, or that worries you, is passed on to one of the regular volunteers.

If something feels wrong, doesn't sit quite right, leaves you frowning or just makes you feel a bit unsettled, then listen to your gut instinct. Something might be wrong and you might be the only person who knows about it. If you have any concerns at all, about any member you must tell one of the regular volunteers straight away (some of these volunteers have particular training in Safeguarding).

Nicole

Daisy

Justine

Caroline



This may mean that the concerns are passed on to Gloucestershire County Council's Safeguarding Team (01452 426565 or 614194 Out of Hours). All concerns will be taken seriously and acted upon.

Thankyou for taking the time to read this, and for supporting your child to attend the Gaming Together Group. If you have any suggestions, comments or complaints, please do seek out one of the regular volunteers and speak to them. By working together to keep the activity safe and appropriate, we all have a part to play.

Happy Gaming!