



## Make it Better, Make it Safe

**A position statement on play and leisure opportunities for children & young people living in Gloucester from the Gloucester Partnership/ Gloucester Crime & Disorder Partnership 'Children & Young People Action Group'.**

We believe that all children & young people have a right to play and leisure opportunities in their home neighbourhoods. These need to be safe, welcoming and what is wanted by children & young people. Spaces to meet, socialise and create. Places of challenge, excitement and fun.

Play is good for children, young people, families and communities. It promotes development, learning, creativity and independence. It encourages a healthy active lifestyle and fosters social inclusion by helping children and young people learn about their local environment and being part of their home community.

Play can also help the Gloucester Partnership achieve broader strategic goals in combating social exclusion, and developing healthier, safer, more sustainable and cohesive communities whilst improving the living environment.

We recognise the increasingly restrictive factors on play and leisure opportunities for children & young people today. By recognising children's play needs, the benefits of play and the child's right to play, we want to overcome these restrictions and support the creation of quality play experiences that make a valuable contribution to healthy and happy children & young people.

We will promote and support the development of playgrounds, facilities for boarders, bikers and skaters, sports areas, youth shelters, green spaces, and the need for playworkers & youth workers. Collectively we will continue to support children & young people and work towards improving the quality of life for the residents of Gloucester.