



# ‘Helpful or not?’ disclosure scenarios

## Scenario 1

### Part 1

During a weekend at camp, a Brownie comes to tell you that she is worried about one of her friends.

**Leader says:**

*‘Oh dear, that doesn’t sound very good. Why are you worried about her?’*

### Part 2

The Brownie is reluctant to tell you any more, as she is worried her friend will not like her if she tells you what she has seen.

**Leader says:**

*‘Well, you seem pretty worried about it. I am sure it can’t be that bad, why don’t you tell me and I promise I won’t tell anyone else for now.’*

### Part 3

After some encouragement, she tells you that she has seen some marks and bruising on her friend’s back but her friend said not to tell anyone because her mum will be mad.

**Leader says:**

*‘I am really glad you told me this, and I can see why you are worried. You are a really good friend to come and tell me. You did the right thing. I cannot keep this a secret though, and will need to tell my commissioner, so we can get your friend the help they need. I hope you understand. Would you like to stay with me for a while and help make lunch, or go back to the activity?’*



# ‘Helpful or not?’ disclosure scenarios

## Scenario 2

### Part 1

At a Guide camp, one of your young leaders seems very unsettled. She is anxious, miserable and withdrawn.

**Leader says:**

*‘Hey Jane, you OK? Come on, we are having loads of fun here, it can’t be that bad?’*

### Part 2

You find a quiet moment to ask if anything is wrong. Hesitantly, she tells you she is worried about her younger sisters, who are very unhappy at home.

**Leader says:**

*‘I can see you are very worried, and I noticed you haven’t been yourself. Thanks for talking to me. Why are you worried about your sisters?’*

### Part 3

Since her mum’s new boyfriend moved in, nothing has been the same. None of them like him and she feels uncomfortable when he is around. One night, she found him alone in her sisters’ bedroom, whispering to them, and neither of them would tell her what had happened. She then tells you that she ‘knows a friend’ who was touched inappropriately under the bedclothes by her mother’s new partner and asks if this could happen to her sisters.

**Leader says:**

*‘I can’t believe you haven’t said anything before now. That sounds like a real worry and it’s no wonder you are concerned. You know we will need to report this to the authorities, as it sounds like something serious is happening and your mum’s new boyfriend may be hurting your sisters. You wait there, I am going to get the leader so we can sort out what to do next.’*

# ‘Helpful or not?’ disclosure scenarios

## Scenario 3

### Part 1

Sophie, a fellow leader, has previously mentioned that her partner likes to go to the pub and often jokes that she comes to Guides for some peace and quiet. Tonight, while preparing drinks, Sophie seems very quiet and says she is feeling a bit tired as it’s been a busy week.

**Leader says:**

*‘I have had a busy week too. Isn’t it funny how sometimes it all happens at once? Can I help you with anything? How about a cup of tea?’*

### Part 2

Sophie tells you that she is worried because her partner has just lost his job. He doesn’t want to talk to her about it, but he is obviously feeling frustrated and is drinking more to cope.

**Leader says:**

*‘Oh, you must be feeling very worried, I can see it’s a situation that is upsetting you. What do you want to do about it?’*

### Part 3

Sophie tells you that last night he hit her, but she doesn’t think he meant to, he was so drunk he didn’t know what he was doing. Although he has never done this before, she is worried and doesn’t know what to do.

**Leader says:**

*‘Sophie, I am sorry to hear that, I can see you are very upset. You know it’s not acceptable for this to happen, and I am very worried about you. I think we need to talk to someone else, if that’s OK with you, so we can get you some help. I realise this may be difficult, but I will be here with you for support.’*

# ‘Helpful or not?’ disclosure scenarios

## Scenario 4

### Part 1

A girl has disclosed at a unit meeting that she has been talking to someone in an online chatroom. She says she has been talking to them for a few weeks and they are friends, but she is upset about a conversation they had.

**Leader says:**

*‘Why on earth were you in an online chatroom? You are not even old enough to be there. It’s no wonder you were upset, those places are not designed for children, we have told you that before.’*

### Part 2

She is feeling upset because the person has started to make inappropriate comments to her, suggesting she pose for pictures or asking her if she has a boyfriend.

**Leader says:**

*‘What? I am shocked. No wonder you are worried. I hope you left the site straight away. Have you spoken to you parents about this? They really need to know and could probably help.’*

### Part 3

She says her parents would be very angry if they found out, as she is not meant to be on the website and she doesn’t know what to do. She says she doesn’t want to be online friends with them any more but they won’t leave her alone.

**Leader says:**

*‘It’s OK. They won’t be angry, they will just want to help you. It’s important that we tell someone about this, as that person may also be asking other girls to do the same thing, and we don’t want them to be at risk too. You have been really brave to come and tell me. I realise it is not easy, and clearly you are very worried. I will help you, and together we can decide what happens next, and make sure you are safe and the right people know what has happened.’*

# ‘Helpful or not?’ disclosure scenarios

## Scenario 5

### Part 1

A young leader has asked if she can talk to you. She is worried about her relationship and wants some advice.

#### Leader says:

*‘Before you tell me anything more, I just need to remind you that if you tell me something and I think your safety or wellbeing may be at risk, I will need to help. I won’t be able to keep it a secret. Is that OK?’*

### Part 2

She tells you she has been going out with a 17-year-old boy for the past six months, but her parents don’t know about it as she is worried her mum won’t be happy because of the age difference. Her boyfriend’s parents are going away for the weekend and he has suggested she go over, as they can have the house to themselves.

#### Leader says:

*‘I can see how that would worry you, but you really shouldn’t keep secrets from your parents. They are there to protect you, and probably have a good reason to be worried. So, are you worried that he will ask you to do something at his house?’*

### Part 3

She is worried, as he is very keen for them to have sex and she is not sure. She likes him and she knows this might be the only chance they have, but she’s not on the pill and he said he didn’t like condoms. Her friend, who is 16 and sexually active, told her to get on with it because most girls in her class have already done it and she may as well too.

#### Leader says:

*‘Clearly you are worried about this, and a healthy relationship shouldn’t make you feel worried or upset. You should not be pressured into doing something you are not ready for, and you also shouldn’t believe everything others say. If you do decide to go ahead, it is important that you have safe sex, as you don’t want to risk your health, and I can give you some information about where to get more advice. However, you are under 16, and if you do have sex, then your boyfriend could get into trouble because you are underage. Do you think we could talk to your parents together?’*