## ANTI-BULLYING WEEK: GOG STYLE

## On with the very first GOG Blog - 12th Nov 2024

In a world where kindness should be the norm, bullying still rears its ugly head all too often. As we mark Anti-Bullying Week, it's essential to reflect on how we can all contribute to a safer, more respectful environment for everyone.

## **Understanding Bullying**

Bullying isn't just a schoolyard issue; it can happen anywhere, from workplaces to social media platforms. It's about power and control, where one person feels superior at the expense of another's dignity. Recognizing the signs of bullying and understanding its impacts is the first step in combating it.

## GOG's Commitment to Anti-Bullying

At GOG (Guild Of Games), we believe in fostering a culture of respect, inclusion, and support. Our community gaming shop is a safe haven where those who have been bullied can find solace and camaraderie. Here's how we're taking a stand:

- 1. Support Systems: We are committed to providing support to individuals who have experienced bullying, ensuring they have a safe space to speak up and seek help without fear of retaliation.
- 2. Gaming Tournaments: Our game tournaments provide a fun, inclusive environment where everyone can connect and compete without fear of judgment or bullying.

I got welcomed with open arms once again by Chris and his Mum Trish as I made my weekly visit to 'Guild Of Games'.

This week, the Reborn I took in with me was 'Patience', my Downs Syndrome baby. As I held her, I kept her face out of view because I have had negative reactions in certain places within the Town Centre of Rotherham.

As I realised it was Anti-Bullying Week a few days prior to my visit, I was hoping to promote AntiBullying Week in the gaming community shop, seeing as it is a safe haven for bullied people like myself. Trish, as always, was eager to have her weekly cuddle with my baby! I was quite hesitant at first as I wasn't sure how a Downs Syndrome baby would be received, given the negative reactions in other places.

We discussed how I was wanting to promote Anti-Bullying Week, and Chris and Trish were willing to do a photoshoot. (As you can see from the picture, Chris was left holding the baby! Trish, on the other hand, is pretending to be camera-shy!) A group photo is also on the website. Other discussions were had, but these are 'under wrap' for now...

Until next week, GOGSTERS.

