

## Agreement for Group

### Introduction

Thank you for allowing your child to be a part of *Game Group – ONLINE VERSION*. This is a group for participants from 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> grade. (I have split the original group to make it viable online.) This group is not a therapy group and it is not a substitute for therapy, although some may use it to achieve therapy goals; it is a social group run by you and loosely facilitated by me and/or volunteers/staff. No therapy notes or attendance will be taken at the meetings. There is no charge for this group.

You may suggest and choose the games, although I maintain veto power. If any parents or participants object to a game for moral, ethical, equity, or religious reasons, we will make adjustment.

The purpose of the group is to provide a place for your child to play games and socialize with people outside of their typical social group. Each of your children has a different reason for joining the group. No assumptions should be made about the reasons for being in the group, including whether a child is in therapy. If your child chooses to disclose whether they are in therapy, that is up to them.

### Responsibilities

Participation in this group is entirely voluntary. Your child should feel no obligation to participate, although for some, it may be a therapy goal. As it is my responsibility to keep the privacy and confidentiality of those individuals who are my patients intact, by joining the group, you agree that you and your child will **use only first names in introductions and interactions with other group members and their parents** during the group. If you want to disclose your own last name and contact information, that is completely up to you, and is neither encouraged nor discouraged. However, by joining this group, you agree that although you may share your contact information, you will not make this request of others. If you feel that this confidentiality has been breached, it is your responsibility to let me know.

If you/your child should run into a participant outside of the group, I request that you respect the privacy and confidentiality of the group members by not calling attention to their group membership and by using only first names. Saying an individual/family is a “friend of a friend” is a typical way of explaining your acquaintance, if necessary.

This group is virtual until further notice. As such, you will have to bring your own snacks. ☺ Please keep in mind that in a virtual environment, no assumptions of confidentiality should be made, and thus, the things that you disclose about yourself should be no more than you would typically be comfortable disclosing in an environment such as school or work, or the broader community. Of course, no recordings of the sessions will be allowed, and I will be using doxy.me as my site for Game Group, unless we have technical difficulties, in which case we will use Zoom or Google Meet.

## Agreement

By signing in to Game Group today, I affirm that I approve of my child's participation in Game Group and both understand and agree to the points listed above. If I have any questions about my child's participation in this activity, I have asked Dr. Hood and have had my questions answered to my satisfaction.