QUEENSLAND Premier Peter Beattie says parents using all night internet games centres for child minding could face penalties. It was revealed last week that some parents were leaving children as young as 12 at the games centres.

"If the Department of Child Safety receives a notification alleging neglect it will investigate," Mr Beattie said.

He said leaving a child overnight in an internet games centre did not in itself constitute a child protection concern serious enough to warrant statutory intervention.

However, adults who did so could face a parent education or family support response.

"My government and the Department of Child Safety are calling on parents to honour their responsibilities in the choices of care for young children," Mr Beattie said.

He said an information package was being developed to give parents guidance and advice on their children visiting the centres.

Child Safety Minister Mike Reynolds said similar information would also be given to the operators of games rooms about their obligations.

"Depending on the games available, they could be in breach of legislation governing the provision of restricted material to young people," Mr Reynolds said.

AAP

This report appears on australianIT.com.au.