Tattershall Primary School
Believe, Achieve, Succeed

Online Safety Newsletter

Fortnite Battle Royale

Fortnite Battle Royale is rated PEGI 12 because it features moderate violence which means it is not suitable for persons under 12 years of age.

It is important to remember that when rating games, PEGI do not take into consideration the communication features of a game. Fortnite does include a chat facility, which adds further risks.

What is Fortnite?

There are different versions of Fortnite, including Battle Royale, which is free to play (although in-app purchases are available). In Battle Royale up to one hundred players compete against each other.

What do I need to be aware of?

- **Chatting to strangers and inappropriate language:** Fortnite voice and text chat. Due to the nature of the game, your child may be chatting to strangers and may hear inappropriate language. Ensure your child knows how to report players for any inappropriate behaviour.
- **In app purchases:** All users can purchase V-Bucks directly through game so make sure you don't store your card details and restrict purchases.

Parental Controls

Fortnite includes several parental controls to help you make it a safer environment for your child including disabling voice chat, filtering language and setting privacy settings. **Also, remember to set up age-appropriate parental controls on the device your child is playing on.**

Further information

Please follow the hyperlink to our school's E-safety page. At the bottom of the page you will find a PDF document giving you further detailed information about Fortnite and how to help your child stay safe.
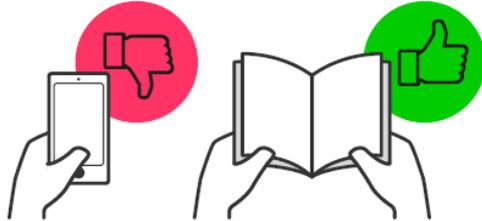
https://www.tattershallprimary.lincs.sch.uk/page/?title=Online+Safety&pid=77

Setting up parental controls on your child's mobile/devices

If you do not have the same mobile phone as your child, and therefore are unable to use Google Family link or Apple Family Sharing, then you can set restrictions on your child's device instead.

Apple Devices

To set up restrictions on your child's device directly (rather than using an app) then follow the instructions on the link below:

https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT201304

The instructions will show you how to get to the settings on your child's phone and then how to set restrictions such as restrict content, schedule downtime, set time limits for apps. You will need to set a passcode 'use a screentime passcode' to ensure changes cannot be made after you have set them.

Android Devices

As with the above link, this link shows you how to set up parental controls on the device itself by creating a PIN:

https://support.google.com/googlplay/answer/1075738?hl=en-GB

Five top tips to manage children's screentime

Help your child make the most of their time on and offline

1 Set a good example with your own device use

Children will tend to model their behaviours on you, so if you start reading a book, they may follow your lead.
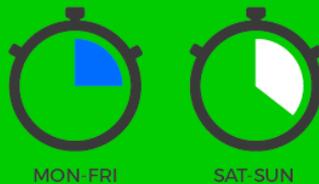
2 Talk together about the time they spend online

Understand what they're doing, and explain your concerns.

3 Agree an appropriate length of time that they can use their device

Put in place a family agreement to set some boundaries and don't break them.

MON-FRI   SAT-SUN

4 Get the whole family to unplug and create 'screen free' zones at home

5 Use technology and apps to help manage screen time

For example, the **Forest app** enables them to grow a beautiful forest each day they don't use their phone for a set amount of time. The **iPad's 'Guided Access'** limits the time you can access any given app, which can be great for younger children.

YouTube Kids

The YouTube Kids app automatically filters out most inappropriate content. But, no automated system is perfect, so it may not catch everything.

Videos that look like they're child-friendly can include violent or disturbing content. They might be suggested videos, or appear in search results.

4 steps to take to help keep your child safe
If you don't already have YouTube Kids, it takes you through parental controls when you set it up. Make sure to set yourself up as a parent and then add child accounts, following the steps on YouTube. Set it up on desktop here: https://www.youtubekids.com/ or download the app.
1) Set parental controls to help protect your child from seeing inappropriate content.
2) Block videos or channels that you don't want your child to watch
3) Report inappropriate content
4) Set a timer to limit time on the app

Please click the icon above. This will take you to a google support page which contains many help topics relating to YouTube Kids.