



14th December 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Child safety on Fortnite

As you will know, Fortnite is a very popular online video game. To play, the age recommendation is **12 and above** due to ‘mild violence’, although you don’t have to provide your age when creating an account, so younger children can still log on easily.

There are some concerns that have been raised about Fortnite. Firstly, the communication between players has a chat function which allows players to talk to each other over a headset, microphone, or using messaging. Children could use it to speak to strangers, or it could even put them at risk of cyberbullying. There have also been news articles about in-app purchases. Players can build up large bills on their parent/carers accounts by buying items. To add to this, the game has an addictive nature.

Below are some safety options that are available to parents/carers:

- Use the parental controls on the gaming device
- Set time limits on game play
- Turn off the voice chat feature
- Talk to your child about what they’re doing online, and make sure they know they can talk to you about anything that has upset them
- Check your bank statements and gaming system account balance regularly to look for in-app purchases you’re not happy with, and to make sure your child isn’t getting around any passwords you’ve set up

If you have any questions and you would like further support, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Chetty
Headteacher

