

Dear Parents,

Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board has recently produced a letter designed to help keep parents up to date and informed about a game that many of our children are playing.

The letter has some helpful, practical advice about privacy settings and how to keep children safe particularly if they are playing online.

PEGI provides advice regarding the age suitability of a game. However, every child is different. Ultimately parents should decide what their children are capable of viewing or experiencing but to help you they have produced the following advice.

- Always look for the age classification on the game package or on the digital storefront.
- Try to look for a summary or review of the game. Ideally, play the game yourself or...
- ...play video games with your children; it's the best way to learn about them. Watch over your kids when they play and talk with them about the games they play. Explain why certain games may not be suitable.
- Agree on the amount of time that can be spent playing games per week.
- Encourage your children to take regular breaks.
- Be aware that games can enable the purchase of additional downloadable content.
- Online games are played in virtual communities allowing players to interact with unknown fellow players. Tell your children not to give out personal details and report inappropriate behaviour.
- Set limits (age, time, spending, online access) by using parental control tools.



- It is important to note that the age ratings 12, 16 and 18 age ratings are mandatory and that it is **illegal** for a retailer to supply any game with any of these ratings to anyone below the specified age. The age ratings 3 and 7 are advisory only
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The letter attached gives particular guidance about Fortnite. I do hope you find it useful.

Kind regards
Ann Cook
Headteacher