



27th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Online Gaming

We are writing to make you aware of a growing concern across the school regarding pupils use of online gaming platforms and associated chat functions.

While many online games can be enjoyable and age-appropriate, we are increasingly aware that some children are using in-game chat features and external messaging (such as Whatsapp) linked to games.

We kindly ask for your support in monitoring your child's online activity particularly when they are playing games that include chat messaging functions.

We would also encourage you to check age ratings on games and ensure that parental controls and privacy settings are activated where possible.

We will continue to address online safety with pupils in school as part of our computing and safeguarding curriculum but we believe that a strong partnership between home and school is essential in keeping children safe.

Thank you for your continued support in this important matter and please find below some further advice on online gaming.

Things to consider if your child games online:

- age ratings of games they play
- messaging and contact functions on the games
- in-game purchases
- trolling, griefing and scams
- how to report problems
- where they can get further support.

Also, if you have more than one child in your home, be aware that games suitable for one child to play or watch, may not be suitable for another.

For more advice visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>

Parental Controls

Parental controls allow you to block and filter upsetting or inappropriate content. They work across your WiFi, phone network, individual apps and devices.

Parental controls can help you to:

- plan what time of day your child can go online and how long for
- create content filters to block apps that may have inappropriate content
- manage the content different family members can see.

For more advice visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

Yours Faithfully
Mrs Smith
Computing Leader