

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023

## MINECRAFT and FORTNITE

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has come to our attention that some of our children are playing games that are unsuitable for their age.

Minecraft has a PEGI age rating of 7+ and Fortnite has a PEGI rating of 12 years old. **These games are not suitable for children under these ages and they should not be playing them.**

Minecraft gives users the option to play in single or multiplayer mode. When playing multiplayer mode, players can communicate with one another via a chat box. **This could put your child at risk of being exposed to inappropriate language or content.** You can also send private messages known as 'Whispers'. **This feature could put your child at risk of receiving unwanted contact.**

As well as the violent aspect of Fortnite, the game has in game audio chat so that players can talk and interact with each other as they play. This means players **may be exposed to swearing and offensive language from strangers in voice or on-screen text chats.**

Please see the NSPCC website for more information on online gaming

Understanding online games: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>

Minecraft: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/is-minecraft-safe-for-children/>

Here are some tips about how to keep your child safe while gaming:  
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/SID-2022/>

Kind regards,

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