

Computing Newsletter Norton Infant School



Useful e-safety links

[http://
www.ceop.police.uk/
safety-centre/](http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/)

[http://
www.getsafeonline.org/](http://www.getsafeonline.org/)

[http://
www.parentport.org.uk/](http://www.parentport.org.uk/)

[http://
www.thinkuknow.co.uk/](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/)

Safer Internet Day 2019

Safer Internet Day will be celebrated on 5th February 2019, focusing on the theme of

Together for a better internet

The aim of Safer Internet Day is to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. This year in the UK, Safer Internet Day will focus on how consent works in an online context and will look at how our children ask, give and receive consent online. This could be in their friendships, how they take and share images and videos or how they manage their privacy and data.

Within our school the children will have an age appropriate assembly about protecting themselves on the internet and will be followed up in sessions in class during the week.

If you wish to find out more about Safer Internet Day and help to create a better internet on Tuesday 5 February and, indeed, throughout the whole year visit www.saferinternetday.org.uk.

Digital Footprint

What is a digital footprint?

Every time you do anything online, whether it's visiting a website, making an online purchase, having a conversation on an online game, using a search engine or posting on social media, it leaves a digital trail or 'footprint'. The internet is a public place, meaning that the things your child does online can be seen by anyone and can be difficult to get rid of altogether. A lot of young people see the online world as a natural extension of their offline world, meaning they might not be as cautious as they should be when it comes to expressing themselves and posting things online. This can have implications for their privacy but also on their reputation in real life. Remind your child that anything you do online can be shared, copied or saved by others - once it's out there, you can't take it back.

What can I do to help my child?

- Check the privacy settings on their social media and blogs so that they're only sharing information with their friends.
- Remind them that the internet is a public place and that anyone could see what they post. They probably know that already but teenagers can forget in the heat of the moment. They should use the 'billboard rule' - if they wouldn't want that photo, comment or post put up on a billboard for everyone to see, they shouldn't post it.
- Make putting their name into Google to check their digital footprint a regular part of your routine. It's worth doing it together so that they get into the habit of checking their profile as well
- It's a good idea to tell them that you want to check their social media profile and ask if you can do it together

The 4 big internet providers in the UK - provide their customers with free parental controls which can be activated at any time. They have come together to produce helpful video guides to help you to download and set-up the controls offered by your provider. You can find these on their websites.

[https://
www.saferinternet.org.uk](https://www.saferinternet.org.uk)

This is a great website with

Lots of help, advice and guides to help keep you and your family safe online.

Fortnite: A Parent's Guide

What is Fortnite?

Fortnite is an online game, which includes Battle Royale, where players do not have to pay to play. In Battle Royale, 100 players compete against each other to be the last person standing in player vs player (PVP) combat. Users play against people of different ages from across the world, and can talk and interact with each other as they play through the in-game chat feature.

What age rating is Fortnite?

Fortnite has a PEGI rating of 12, PEGI have said this is due to the: *'frequent scenes of mild violence. It is not suitable for persons under 12 years of age'*.

This PEGI rating only takes into account the content in the game and not the contact element, where players may be exposed to swearing and offensive language from strangers, either through audio or on-screen text chat.

What do I need to know?

- **You need to create an account** - In order to play Fortnite you have to create an account. To create this account you need to provide an email address (which you will have to verify) and display/user name. However you are not asked your age in order to create an account.
- **You are playing against other players**—As Fortnite is an online game you will play against players of different ages from across the world. You cannot turn the in game chats off or choose who you play against.
- **You can make in game purchases**— Although Battle Royale is free to play, other aspects of the game are not. There are packs which give you different access to the full game and extensions, bonuses and weapons. These start at £34.99 and go up to £119.99. The game does ask players to make additional in-game purchases whilst playing, though these are not required to play the game.
- **There is animated violence**—Fortnite does feature violence when players are in combat with each other, the animation of the game is very cartoonish, and the violence isn't bloody or gory. However, it is worth noting that the aim of Fortnite is to defeat other players by fighting against them.

Top Tips for Staying Safe if your child does play Fortnite

- **Have an open and honest conversation with your child.** It's important to involve yourself in your child's online life and a simple and effective way to this is by talking to them about their life online. Try to maintain an open dialogue with your child and find opportunities to talk to them about what they love to do online. Parents can help children access the amazing resources the internet has to offer whilst keeping them safe online at the same time. Asking your child about how they play Fortnite and what they like about it is a great way to start a conversation.
- **Play with them!** It may seem daunting, but one of the best things that you can do is to engage with the gaming environment and begin to understand what makes Fortnite so attractive to young people, as well as giving yourself an idea of the reporting tools available within the game.
- **Know how to make a report.** On Fortnite you can report players who are behaving inappropriately by using the in-game feedback tool located in the game Main Menu, you can also make a report by emailing the creators of Fortnite.

Check out our new school website for exciting news and events

<http://www.norton-inf.uk/>

and our Twitter feed for updates about Norton Infant School

@InfantNorton