



ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS C. E. (FOUNDATION) PRIMARY AND PRE-SCHOOL

Online Gaming

The world is becoming more connected everyday. The internet and mobile phones has made it easily accessible to watch funny videos, listen to music and keep up to date with your family and friends. However, if you're not safe online, you could end up in a bad situation.

Do

- use hard to guess passwords
- make sure you know who you're talking too
- cover or unplug your web camera if it is not in use

Don't

- meet someone you only know online
- reveal too much personal information that could lead a stranger to identify you
- send explicit photos or videos of yourself to others because once they're gone you lose control of them

Top Tips for online gaming

These following top tips for online games are from a useful, informative website for parents which again can be found in the useful links section.

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 it so attractive to young people as well as the types of activities that they enjoy - have a go on some games yourself!

Talk with children about the types of games they are playing. Are they role-playing games, sports games, strategy games or first person shooters? If you're not sure what they are, have a go yourself to find out more.

Discuss the age and content ratings on games. These ratings should be treated the same way that we treat film classifications. The regulatory body **PEGI** rate all games on sale in the UK, it is important that both your pupils and their parents are aware of their meaning.



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Some games may offer children the chance to chat with other players by voice and text. Ask them who they are playing with and find out if they are talking to other players. If chat is available, then the type of language that is used by other players may be an issue for consideration.

Remember that the same safety rules for going online and social networking sites apply to playing online games too. Familiarise yourself with the SMART rules, and encourage the children and young people in your care to do the same as well.