Welcome to the May 2020 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents

Looking for games for children, teenagers and adults?

Family Video Games Database
- 458 games hand-picked and tested with families over long periods of time
- Games added and updated through continued testing with families
- Every game is presented for parents and carers to find and make informed choice of games for children, teenagers and adults
- All Taming Gaming games are PEGI rated

For more guidance on:
- Healthy gaming
- Family settings
- Setting ground rules
Visit AskAboutGames.com

Corona Virus Help
Lots of useful games for families staying at home:
- Hope Through Play
- Be A Good Neighbour
- Find Calm From The Storm
- Educational Games That Are Also Good Games
- Get Fit Playing Great Games

PEGI Ratings
Age ratings 3,7,12,16 and 18 ensure that entertainment content – such as films, DVDs, and games – is clearly labelled for the minimum age group for which it is suitable.

The PEGI scheme was devised and introduced in 2003 to provide guidance to consumers to help them decide whether or not to buy a particular product

PEGI ratings 12, 16 and 18 are legally enforceable in the UK, meaning they cannot be supplied to persons below those age bar

RECOMMENDATION – when buying a game for anyone under the age of 18, always check the age rating to see if it is suitable for the end-user

Smartphones and tablets?
PEGI ratings are being applied to all products in the Google Play (Android) and Windows stores.

Find out what you need to know about a Video Game in just a few minutes!
View short videos for many games which provide a quick, clear introduction to the content that matters most to families. Including:
- ROBLOX – PEGI 7+
- Call of Duty Black Ops – PEGI 18+
- Fortnite - PEGI 12+

Stay Safe!

New videos from Childnet to use at home with 6-9 year olds

3 videos for families to use together covering:
- What information do you keep safe online
- What types of people do you meet and communicate with online
- What you should and shouldn't accept online

Each video has:
Clear online safety advice, specifically tailored for children 6-9 years old
10-15 minutes of fun activities

Tips for staying safe on a ZOOM call
Use the following advice to keep yourself and your attendees safer if you are using Zoom to make calls:

Setting up the meeting
- Ensure you generate an auto ID – don’t use your default session ID based on your username
- Include a password

Advanced section
- Enable a waiting room
- Mute participants on entry

On call functions
- Don't 'ADMIT ALL' when attendees join
- Use a virtual background to hide your background

Review above and find out more here

Instagram announces new features to combat cyber-bullying

Instagram announces 3 new features:
1. Managing unwanted interactions
2. Highlighting positive comments
3. Choosing who can tag and mention you

Find out how and much more from Internet Matters
Find out how to navigate Social Media safely including: WhatsApp; Facebook parent portal and Instagram here

More Advice, Tips and Guides
Visit the NSPCC’s Share Aware website and check the T&Cs plus Age Recommendations here
Visit CommonSense Media’s website to review videos, games and Apps here Review before your children!
For a range of Tips, Advice and guides from age-specific online safety checklists to guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, visit InternetMatters’ website here

Need help!
For young people - depending on the age of your child there are a range of places they can go for help, younger children call Childline (0800 1111) for help and support older children The Mix offer free and practical advice

Stay Safe!