Age Ratings

It may seem annoying to have age ratings on games and TV shows, but they are put in place for a good reason. Age ratings keep you safe from dangers on apps or in movies. For example, in the show 'Wednesday' there is an age rating due to the content that may be inappropriate for younger children. You may find that annoying but it is for a good reason, which is why your parents might not let you use or watch the same things as your friends. These are some of the apps that have age ratings: WhatsApp, Instagram, TikTok, snapchat and Facebook. You may use some of these apps and that is okay as long as your parents let you or are aware of you using them.



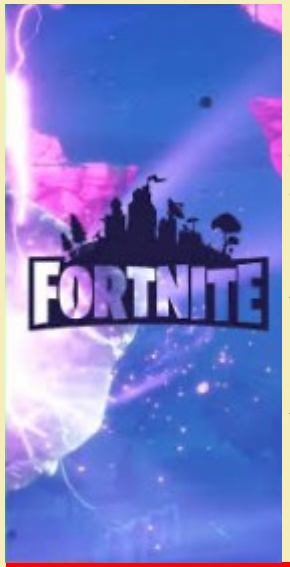
It is very important to follow the age restrictions or to talk to your parents before using an app or watching a show above your age. This will help make sure you have a happy and safe childhood and avoid you being exposed to online dangers.

Do you now see why you should follow the age restrictions?

By Joseph (Tollerton) Aofe (Abbey Road)

Fortnite Safety

Fortnite is a multi-player game that allows you to talk to your friends and fight while building, although it sounds like a good game sometimes it'll go down hill. Fortnite is a pegi 12+ game but kids younger than that still play it. You need to be careful as sometimes, adults like to play it acting like children.



Although it is a free game, there is an in game currency called 'V-Bucks'. If your children pesters you for V-Bucks don't buy them, because they can still play the game without it and it is still fun! Sometimes, on the internet, people make fake links to trick people in thinking they can get free V-Bucks– so be careful!

Altogether the game is okay for kids to play but its best they don't play it for too long. If you do get your kids Fortnite, make sure to agree a time limit with them to keep a balance. Don't talk to strangers and keep your personal information a secret

By Amelia & Harvey (Brookside Primary).

Warning– in this magazine, we talk about apps that are popular in school but are rated for older children. We are not recommending these apps, just trying to keep you safe!

Equals Trust -Digital Leaders-

Year 5/6 Edition

Issue 1

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Cyber Bullying — Digital Footprint — Online Scams — Help, my parents want to read my messages—The danger of links — Age Ratings — Fortnite Safety

Welcome

Hello! We are the year 5/6 digital leaders across the Equals Trust: Heymann, Abbey Road, Keyworth, Tollerton, Burton Joyce, Cropwell Bishop, Robert Miles Junior, Brookside, Flintham, Richard Bonnington, Willow Farm and Crossdale. You can easily recognise us by the blue digital leaders badges that we will wear. At least one student from each school joined together in December 2022 to discuss online safety and messages we wanted pupils in our schools to have with the Christmas Holidays coming up. We were then all involved in writing an article in this issue, making it a fun and interesting read. We hope this issue helps you and your family stay safe on the internet. ;)



By Adam (Abbey Road) , Henry (Heymann)

Cyber Bullying

Cyber bullying is when people text or send mean messages and try to hurt your feelings. It is like bullying but using digital devices or social media. These messages can really hurt peoples feelings and cause lasting damage. Make sure if you are being cyber bullied to tell someone who can help. If you try to do it back, this can make things worse and can get you in trouble.

So just tell a parent so they can do something about it.

There are many sites you can go to for help if you feel like you can't tell someone like Childline: 0800 1111

https://www.childline.org.uk/

By Maya (Cropwell Bishop)

DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

A digital footprint is data that has been left behind when people have been online. There are two different types of digital footprints: passive and active. Passive footprints are made when information is collected from you without you knowing it is happening. E.g., when you are searching something on a search engine, you leave behind a passive footprint. For example: if you search up 'what food do cats like', you will give the internet information about yourself. Like in that example, the internet will know you either like cats or have one.



An active footprint is when you deliberately share personal information. This can be dangerous because when you share it, it could make it easier for people to hack into your accounts. If you are young and you share harmful information or messages, when you are trying to get a job later in life, the people who are hiring you may come across it and might not want you working for them.

Here are some facts about digital footprints
1. It is hard to keep a good footprint because everything you do online will never be deleted.
2. Everything you do is stored in a remote area that you may never have known about.
3. You can try to erase them but they will usually never be erased.
4. If someone says something about you online it goes on your digital footprint.
5. Digital footprints can be helpful or harmful to your reputation.

By Riya (Heymann) & Zoe (Flintham)

ONLINE SCAMMING



A scam is a dishonest scheme carried out on the internet to make money. The internet is an amazing place; however there are many frauds and scams. To deceive or defraud an unsuspecting person is classed as scamming. It takes money or goods from an innocent person and is done anonymously.

What are the different types of scams?
It is estimated that 48% of the people in the UK have been targeted by scam. Only 5% of scams are reported. Coming in a variety of ways, scams can come from post, phone, email, online or on the doorstep. A crime that costs UK people 3.3billion pounds a year, and 84% through the internet.

There are thousands of different types of scams; fake lotteries and prize draws, bogus health draws, dodgy investment schemes and phishing. As scamming is dangerous, you should always be wary of what you are clicking and buying online.

By Erin, Lucas and Enoch (Burton Joyce Primary& Cropwell Bishop)

HELP! My parents want to go through my messages!



Although we may not like it, many parents go through children's messages and is usually to ensure their safety. Let's talk about it.
Although most children hate their parents doing this, they are only trying to keep them safe.
Parents may go through messages to check for many reasons, such as inappropriate language, bullying or even anything happening at school. They're not trying to be nosey. Their main aspect is just to keep you SAFE. You may think what is being said or talked about isn't affecting you and other people but that is not always the case. Some times you can be dragged into a situation and you may not realise it is harmful or not good for you.
Being online can sometimes be unsafe this is why your parents want to check you are safe. Messages are mainly a fun sociable platform for people to communicate and catch up with each other from a distance, but sometimes we all need another pair of eyes to help keep us safe.

By Poppy (Heymann) & Johnnie (Tollerton)



The danger of links!



We use links all the time but do you know that not all of them are good?

Randomly clicking links on the internet can get you in big trouble meaning you need to stay aware when you are online. We are going to give you some information to help you stay safe when online.
Some links or adverts may seem to be OK to click on but they may not be telling the truth. Clicking on these may result in dangerous malware, ransomware or viruses getting downloaded on your device which could hurt, lock or even damage the device if not stopped. Even worse, if a scammer gets into one device, chances are they will get into another.
So with all of this information here are our top tips to help you stay safe:
-don't go on unknown websites.
-don't click random links or adverts.
-don't open attachments from people you do not know.
-If an advert seems to good to be true then it probably is.
I hope this article helped provide information to keep you safer online and convinced you not to click any suspicious links or websites.

By *Adam (Abbey Road) Henry (Heymann)*

