

APP/GAME OF THE MONTH

Roblox is a platform consisting of a collection of games. Players can either create games or play games that other users have created. It is free to download (however subscription options and in game/app purchases are available) and can be played across numerous devices. **A lot of the content is user generated, which may mean not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play. It is important to set up appropriate parental controls for your child.**

What rating is Roblox?

PEGI rate Roblox with a Parental Guidance label, this is because it is difficult to rate due to the huge level of user generated content. It is rated for 'Teens' on Google Play and **12+** on the App store.

What should I be aware of?

Chat Facility - Players can chat to each other on Roblox; **Virtual Currency** - Players can buy Robux (their virtual currency) to buy in-game upgrades or accessories; **Game content** - users create games so sometimes the content/themes may not be appropriate for your child.

How do I report abuse and block users?

Roblox have a Report Abuse system so show your child how to use it to report inappropriate content as well as how to block other users. There are different ways of doing this depending on the device being used.

For more information about how to set up parental controls, pins and further guidance about the risks of Roblox, please see the Polwhele House Home Learning website and <https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>
<https://swgfl.org.uk/resources/checklists/roblox/>

Age-rating information:

Age ratings are used across different types of online content and platforms to guide on what is suitable for different ages according to the level of risk that it will pose to children. Most popular content and platforms – from the films and TV shows you stream, to the games you play and the social media you use – will have an age rating.



Personalised Digital Toolkit

Answer some simple questions and get age specific advice and recommendations: <https://www.internetmatters.org/digital-family->



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GROWING CORNWALL'S FUTURE

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POLWHELE HOUSE ONLINE SAFETY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & FAMILIES

Dear Polwhele House Families,
We hope you find our November 2023 Online Safety information helpful.

You can find out more information and see further guidance on our Online Safety for Parents webpage: [Online Safety Information - Polwhele House School Learning](#)

We welcome communication with our families about any concerns they have about online safety. Please feel free to email the Office or complete the 'Contact Us' form on the webpage above.

This month
we are
celebrating
National
Anti-Bullying
Week 2023

10 Online Safety Tips to support Anti-Bullying

- 1 Be kind to yourself and others
- 2 Treat others the way you wish to be treated
- 3 Report bullying to a trusted adult
- 4 Don't copy the behaviour of others if it feels wrong
- 5 Don't spread unkind rumours or gossip
- 6 Remember, we are all different and may not always agree
- 7 Don't speak out in anger
- 8 Make amends if you have upset someone
- 9 Don't say things online you wouldn't face-to-face
- 10 Be a good listener

natterhub.com

LIVESTREAMING

What is livestreaming?

Livestreaming is when an individual broadcasts video live over the internet. People can watch livestreams from any device that is connected to the internet.

Who is watching livestreaming?

Research from Ofcom reported that 57% of 3 – 17 year olds have watched live streams and the most used platforms to watch live streams were YouTube and TikTok.



The research also showed that the percentage watching content on livestreaming app/sites increased by age. A third of 3-4 year olds were watching live content with this number growing to eight in ten of 16-17 year olds. This is reported in Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2022 (ofcom.org.uk).

Children Acts 1989 & 2004

Education Act 2002

Working Together to Safeguarding Children
2018, 2021

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023

What are the risks?

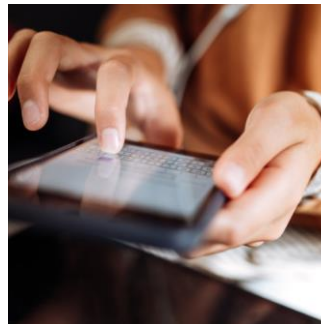
There are risks associated with watching livestreams that you should be aware of. The main risk being that your child may see or hear something inappropriate as your child may come across themes or content that is not suitable for them. It is difficult to moderate live content as it is happening in real time.

How can I help my child?

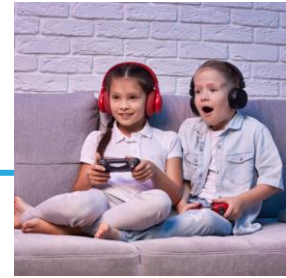
- All online platforms have an age rating, ensure your child only accesses platforms that are appropriate to their age. For example, TikTok has an age rating of 13.
- For any platforms that your child uses, ensure appropriate parental controls and privacy settings are applied.
- Take an interest in what your child is doing online and on a regular basis, ask your child to show you what they are accessing.
- Ensure your child knows how to use any reporting/blocking tools on the app that they are using and as always please ensure that your child knows to talk to a trusted adult if they see anything that concerns them online.

Further information

- <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/livestreaming-parents/>
- <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-is-livestreaming/>



PARENTAL CONTROLS



Does your child have a games console? If yes, have you set up age-Appropriate parental controls? The controls vary across the different consoles, but all will allow you to restrict spending and communication for example:

PlayStation

Set up your account as a family manager and create a separate child account so you can tailor their activities. Find out more here: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/psn-safety-parents-guide/>

Xbox

You can download an app to manage your child's gaming experience. Find out more here: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/apps/family-settings-app>

Nintendo Switch

Nintendo also offer a free app to monitor what and how your children are playing. Find out more here: <https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html>