



# Warboys Community Primary School

Moving Forward Together  
To Develop Confident, Independent Learners

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Dear Parents/Carers,

## **FORTNITE (PEGI 12)**

I am sure that most of you are aware of the very popular video game FORTNITE which can be played on a computer, phone or tablet. This game has a Pan European Game Information (PEGI) rating of 12 so is not considered suitable to be played by children under 12 years old.

This game has quickly become a big hit and is a regular topic of discussion among many students in school. The game pits players against 99 others in a frantic fight for survival on an island where the last gamer standing is the winner. The game has bright, cartoon-like graphics which prevent it from being violently explicit but it can become very addictive, and one of the main issues is the amount of time children are playing the game. Also, although the game is free, there are some elements which allow players to purchase items.

There have been a few scare stories in the media regarding the game so I would like to share a useful FREE SAFETY GUIDE for parents which provides information about the game and the particular risks. This guide has been created by <https://nationalonlinesafety.com> and this website has some very useful information regarding various gaming platforms and the management of children's online activities.

Like many other online games, FORTNITE has a 'chat' option and is played by adults, and due to the nature of the game the language used can be very inappropriate for young children. All online games have a risk, with regard to contact with others, and our students are made aware of these risks in school.

Unfortunately, recently we have had issues with some student's behaviour as they mimic the games fighting element. We have also had instances of money changing hands in school for FORTNITE related activities.

Therefore, I would urge you to read the *Safety Guide* as it provides information to parents about the dangers associated with the game and how they can reduce the risks, including, but not limited to; 'Chatting to Strangers', 'Griefing' and 'Cyberbullying', 'Online Payments' and 'Information Sharing'.

Kind regards,  
Nick Bostock  
I.T. & Data Admin

