

GES e-Safety News

15 June 2018

At GES, we regularly deliver online safety sessions to pupils. Recently we have noticed an increasing number of young people talking about the game 'Fortnite'.

What is Fortnite?

Fortnite is an online game where players compete against each other to be the last person standing in player VS. player (PVP) combat. As Fortnite is an online game you will play against players of different ages from across the world. You cannot turn the in-game chats off or choose who you play against.

What age rating is Fortnite?

Fortnite has a PEGI rating of 12. PEGI have said this is due to the: *'frequent scenes of mild violence. It is not suitable for persons under 12 years of age'*.

This PEGI rating only takes into account the content in the game and not the contact element, where players may be exposed to swearing and offensive language from strangers, either through audio or on-screen chat.

Fortnite does feature violence when players are in combat with each other. The animation of the game is very cartoonish, and the violence isn't bloody or gory, however, it is worth noting that the aim of Fortnite is to defeat other players by fighting against them.

Our advice

Have an open and honest conversation with your child. It's important to involve yourself in your child's online life and a simple and effective way to this is by talking to them about their life online. It's always useful to remind your children to use digital devices in 'family' areas of the house where there is an element of supervision.

Please be mindful of when your child is playing any online game and who they are playing with. As a rule, a child should not be playing a game if they are younger than the PEGI rating. If however you give permission to your child to play the game, they should still not be using any audio or video equipment i.e. a microphone or webcam.