



Darell Primary School

E-safety Newsletter March 2024



Do you need help managing your child's device?

You can use Google Family Link or Apple Family Sharing to help you depending on your child's device.

Google Family Link

This is a parental control app from Google that lets you:

- See activity reports showing how long they spend on each app.
- Approve or block new app downloads.
- Set screen time limits.
- Find their location (using their device).

You will need to download an app and then decide appropriate settings:

<https://families.google/familylink>

Apple Family Sharing

You can set up Family Sharing in the settings of your device: <https://www.apple.com/uk/family-sharing/>

Family Sharing allows you to:

- Share Apple subscriptions.
- Share purchases from the App Store.
- Approve what children purchase/download.
- Limit screen time.
- Share locations and find devices

Managing Screen time from Internet Matters

Are you worried your child has too much screentime or would like more advice on how to support your child in managing their screen time? Internet Matters have a wealth of information on their website to help support you.

This first link discusses how to get the most out of screen time and how to talk to your child about screen time based on their age:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/screen-time/protect-your-child/>

This second link provides advice on how to tackle too much screen time and what the signs of too much screen time might be:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/screen-time/deal-with-it/>

This final link provides a guide on how to balance screen time:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/creating-a-balanced-digital-diet-with-screen-time-tips/>

Fortnite Battle Royale

Fortnite Battle Royale is rated PEGI 12 because it features moderate violence which means it is not suitable for persons under 12 years of age.

It is important to remember that when rating games, PEGI do not take into consideration the communication features of a game. Fortnite does include a chat facility, which adds further risks.

What is Fortnite?

There are different versions of Fortnite, including Battle Royale, which is free to play (although in-app purchases are available). In Battle Royale up to one hundred players compete against each other.

What do I need to be aware of?

• Chatting to strangers and inappropriate language:

Fortnite contains voice and text chat. Due to the nature of the game, your child may be chatting to strangers and may hear inappropriate language. Ensure your child knows how to report players for any inappropriate behaviour.

• **In app purchases:** All users can purchase V-Bucks directly through the game so make sure you don't store your card details within the game/device and restrict purchases.

Parental Controls

Fortnite includes several parental controls to help you make it a safer environment for your child including disabling voice chat, filtering language and setting privacy settings. **Also, remember to set up age-appropriate parental controls on the device your child is playing on.**

Further information:

Virgin Media outline how to set up the different parental controls available:

<https://www.virginmedia.com/blog/parental-controls/gaming-fortnite>

Does your child need a mobile phone?

If you are thinking about giving your child their own phone, then you might find this article from Family Lives useful as it discusses things you need to consider:

<https://www.familylives.org.uk/advice/primary/health-and-development/does-your-child-need-a-mobile-phone>