# Welcome to the May 2020 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents

Looking for games for children, teenagers and adults?

#### **Family Video Games Database**

- 458 games hand-picked and tested with families over long periods of time
- Games added and updated through continued testing with families
- Every game is presented for parents and carers to find and make and informed choice of games for children, teenagers and adults
- All <u>Taming Gaming</u> games are <u>PEGI</u> rated

#### For more guidance on:

- Healthy gaming
- Family settings
- Setting ground rules

Visit <u>AskAboutGames.com</u>



#### **Corona Virus Help**

Lots of useful games for families staying at home:

Hope Through Play
Be A Good Neighbour
Find Calm From The Storm

**Educational Games That Are Also Good Games** 

**Get Fit Playing Great Games** 

#### **PEGI Ratings**

Age ratings **3,7,12,16** and **18** ensure that entertainment content – such as films, DVDs, and games – is clearly labelled for the minimum age group for which it is suitable.

The <u>PEGI</u> scheme was devised and introduced in 2003 to provide guidance to consumers to help them decide whether or not to buy a particular product

<u>PEGI</u> ratings 12, 16 and 18 are legally enforceable in the UK, meaning they cannot be supplied to persons below those age bar



**RECOMMENDATION** – when buying a game for anyone under the age of 18, always check the age rating to see if it is suitable for the end-user

### Smartphones and tablets?

PEGI ratings are being applied to all products in the Google Play (Android) and Windows stores.

# Find out what you need to know about a Video Game in just a few minutes!

View short <u>videos</u> for many games which provide a quick, clear introduction to the content that matters most to families. Including:

- ROBLOX PEGI 7+
- Call of Duty Black Ops PEGI 18+
- Fortnite PEGI 12+

Remember FREE advice is just a phone call away from the  $0_2$  and NSPCC helpline 0808 800 5002 Or visit any  $0_2$  Guru in an  $0_2$  store New videos from Childnet to use at home with 6-9 year olds

3 videos for families to use together covering:

What information do you keep safe online

What types of people do you meet and communicate with online

What you should and shouldn't accept online

Each video has:

Clear online safety advice, specifically tailored for children 6-9 years old

10-15 minutes of fun activities

#### Tips for staying safe on a ZOOM call

Use the following advice to keep yourself and your attendees safer if you are using Zoom to make calls: **Setting up the meeting** 

## Ensure you generate an auto ID – don't use your default session ID based on your username

Include a password

#### Advanced section

- Enable a waiting room
- Mute participants on entry

#### On call functions

- Don't 'ADMIT ALL' when attendees join
- Use a virtual background to hide your background Review above and find out more here

Instagram announces new features to combat cyber-bullying

#### Instagram announces 3 new features:

- 1. Managing unwanted interactions
- 2. Highlighting positive comments
- 3. Choosing who can tag and mention you



Find out how and much more from <u>Internet Matters</u>
Find out how to navigate Social Media safely including:
WhatsApp; Facebook parent portal and Instagram <u>here</u>

#### More Advice, Tips and Guides

Visit the NSPCC's Share Aware website and check the T&Cs plus Age Recommendations <a href="here">here</a>

Visit CommonSense Media's website to review videos, games and Apps <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a> Review before your children!

For a range of Tips, Advice and guides from age-specific online safety checklists to guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, visit InternetMatters' website <a href="https://www.nee.gov

## Need help!

**For young people** - depending on the age of your child there are a range of places they can go for help,

younger children <u>call Childline</u> (0800 1111) for help and support

older children The Mix offer free and practical advice

Stay Safe!

