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10 June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been made aware of some significant safeguarding concerns with regards the gaming platform Roblox. Whilst the games on Roblox are aimed at 8-18 year olds, there are no age restrictions. This means both adults and young people can play and communicate with each other on the platform. All games are multiplayer and include a written chat feature, which is visible to players within each individual game. Users can also make and receive friend requests during gameplay and this means that they can chat to each other outside of the game.

### **Top tips for parents/carers**

#### **Stay engaged and have regular conversations**

Show an interest in the games your children are playing. This could be through having a conversation about what they like to play or could be through watching them play the game. You could even have a go at playing the games yourself! If children know you have an interest in the game, they may feel more comfortable talking to you about it or coming to you for help if they need it.

#### **Help them understand the importance of personal information**

Check that your child understands:

- the importance of keeping their personal information safe
- that they should speak to an adult straight away if the chat goes from being about the game to meeting up offline, personal information or sending images.

#### **Make use of the safety features available**

Block and report:

Make sure your child knows how to find and use the report and block functions. Use the Roblox how to make a report page to learn how to do this.

Safety settings:

Set up the parental controls that are right for your family. You can also disable chat, set up the Parent PIN and use the Account Restrictions within Roblox

Settings for under 13s:

There are additional safety features for under-13s, so it's worth checking your child's account is registered with the correct age. Players under the age of 13 have a <13 symbol next to their username on the game at all times, however this is not displayed to other players.

#### **Encourage them to tell you about concerns**

Remind your child that they should come to you if they ever see something inappropriate, mean comments or if anything worries them within the game. If you know how to report this type of content within Roblox, you will be in the best position to help them if they need it.

If you ever have concerns about the communication between your child and someone they have never met and only know online you should report this to CEOP via: <http://www.ceop.police.uk/ceop-report/>

Yours sincerely

Sacha Schofield  
Executive Headteacher

