

Burton Green Primary School

Online Safety Newsletter

Belong, Believe, Achieve

We would highly recommend this online 'Introduction to online safety for Parents' course. It gives you important insight into how your child engages with the online world. It will highlight the common areas where children spend a lot of time online and steps you can take around your child's smartphone usage.

And it's free!



<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/courses/online-safety-klass-for-parents-and-carers-ages-7-11>

There's a viral scare online. What should I do?

As a parent, there is a lot you can do to support your child. It's important to help your child feel safe by staying calm.

If your child has not yet heard about the scare, don't bring it to their attention by naming it or trying to explain it. Instead, remind them that if they ever feel worried about something they see online - or hear about from friends - worries them they can come to you or another adult they trust for help.

Make sure they know if they do see something upsetting or worrying, they are in control. Tell them that they can report it to the platform they are using and close down their app or browser – and you can help them with this.

Continue to have open and honest conversations with your child. Keep up-to-date with what they are doing online, celebrate the positives, and keep talking about how they can stay safe.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/theres-a-viral-scare-online-what-should-i-do/>



In-game chat. What do you need to know?

Online games are really popular amongst children. 59% of 5-15 year olds play online games, as games like Fortnite, Minecraft and Roblox become increasingly important part of their social lives.

How does in-game chat take place?

Every game is different, which means that there are different ways of talking in game. There are a few common ways of talking though:

Built in open chat functions. Using the game's built-in chat functions you can talk through voice or text with other people in the game

Quick chat functions. A 'quick chat' function has set phrases, so you can send short automatic messages to a teammate or player.

Platform messaging. Some gaming platforms let you send voice or text messages to other players, just like a messaging app or social media. Players give their number to their friends and other players so they can add them to the game and chat with them.

'Ping' systems. Some games use non – verbal communication to 'talk'.

Chat or messaging apps. Players can also use external apps e.g. WhatsApp to talk to each other during the game. This chat can be voice, video or text.