

Online Safety Workshop

MRS EBSWORTH & MISS STRAWBRIDGE



What do we mean by online safety?

Online Safety is being aware of the nature of the **possible threats** that you could encounter whilst engaging in activity through the internet

These could be:

- **Security** threats, like viruses and phishing
- Protecting and managing your **personal data**
- **Online reputation** management
- Avoiding **harmful, inappropriate** or **illegal content**
- Keeping safe whilst **messaging online**



Online Safety – Why is it important?

The **importance of the internet** has increased massively in recent years.

This is partially due to **remote learning** and **COVID** impact

It is also because of the rise of **YouTube** (and other **social media**) which is now more watched than television.

Statistics highlighting the prevalence of online safety issues (information from Internet Watch Foundation)

79% of children surveyed have experienced **online bullying**

74% of children surveyed have experienced **inappropriate contact**

81% of children surveyed have experienced potentially **harmful experiences**

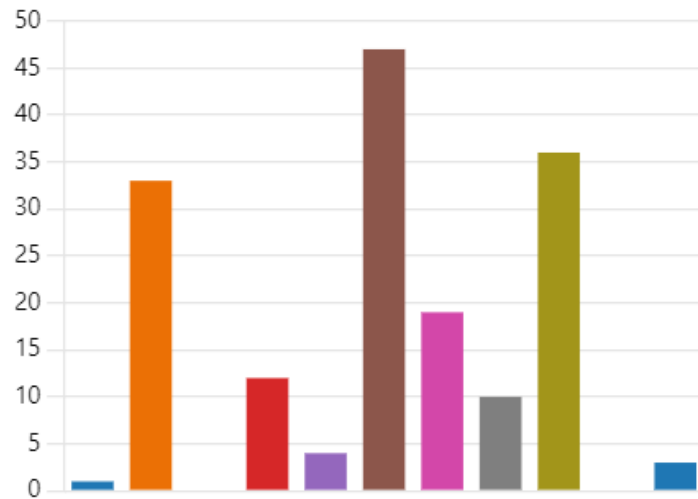
98% of videos removed from the internet are uploaded by or involve children younger than 13yrs

Teen **suicide rates** are at an all time high



Our survey results

Parent responses

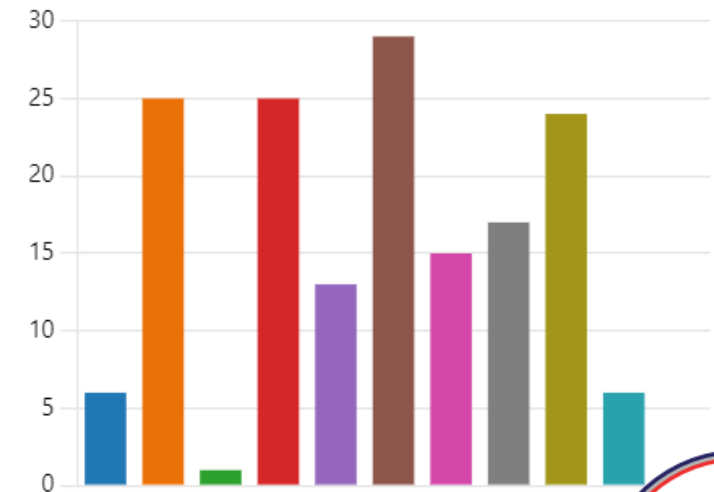


What do you like to do online

[More Details](#)

- Shopping
- Watching TV (Through Netflix/A...
- Email
- Listen to music
- Find information
- Play games
- Help with homework
- Sending messages to others (Th...
- Watching Videos (YouTube etc)
- Social Media (Facebook, Twitter ...)
- Other

Pupil responses

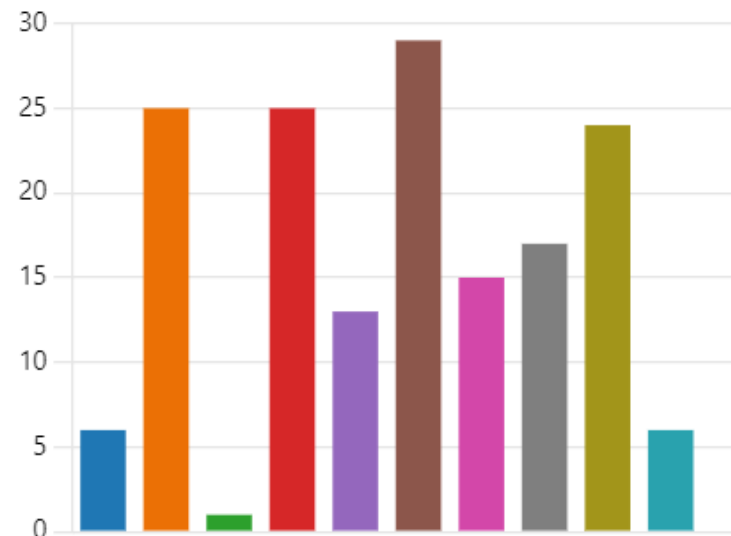


Our survey results

What do you like to do online?

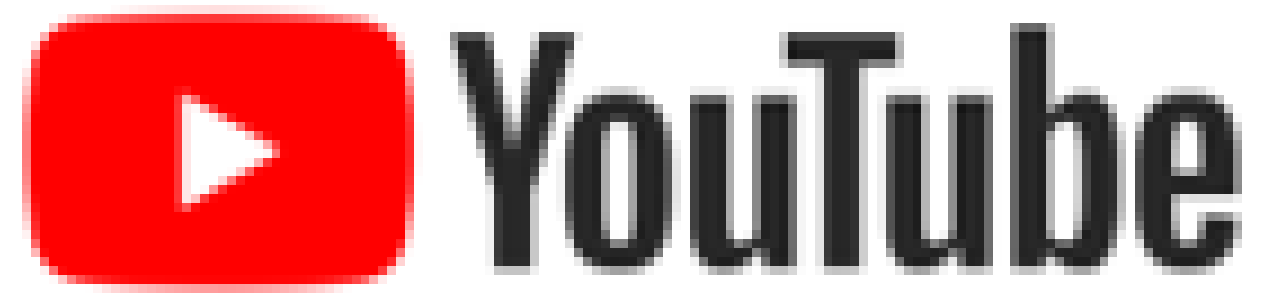
[More Details](#)

Shopping	6
Watching TV (Through Netflix/A...	25
Email	1
Listen to music	25
Find information	13
Play games	29
Help with homework	15
Sending messages to others (Th...	17
Watching Videos (YouTube etc)	24
Social Media (Facebook, Twitter ...	6
Other	0



Today we will look at online safety specifically related to YouTube, online gaming, and messaging!





YouTube - What are the dangers?

When used safely and responsibly, YouTube provides a wealth of opportunities for children to learn, be entertained, be creative, and play. However, with so much content available – there is a lot you don't want your younger children to see.

Here are some of the dangers:

Explicit content

Cyber bullying through YouTube comments

Related videos

Challenge videos

Misinformation



YouTube - What can we do to help?

- **YouTube Kids** – You can set YouTube Kids up as a parent which effectively means that you can **share your child's account** and have more assurance over what content they have access to. YouTube Kids has **built-in filters** to ensure that all content available is age appropriate and safe for your child. You just need to add your email address to create an account.
- **Watch videos with them** – One of the best ways to understand how your child uses social media is to use it with them as an activity to do together. Instead of watching television together, you can ask your child to put on their favourite YouTuber
- **Check their history** – If you have access to your child's YouTube account, you can check their **watch history**. This is a list of previously watched videos that your child has viewed. You can check these to ensure the videos are safe for your child to view.
- **Tailor the suggested videos** – The suggested videos on YouTube are calculated using an algorithm. This means that the wrong type of content can be shown in the suggested list. If you or your child ever notices inappropriate videos in this list, you can click on the **three dots** next to the video in question, and select "**not interested**", which will remove the video from the list.
- **Private profiles** – If your child is uploading content onto YouTube, they can make their profile private, which means that **only those they invite can view their video** and it will not be made public. This reduces the risk of **hateful comments** being left on their video.



YouTube - What can we do to help?



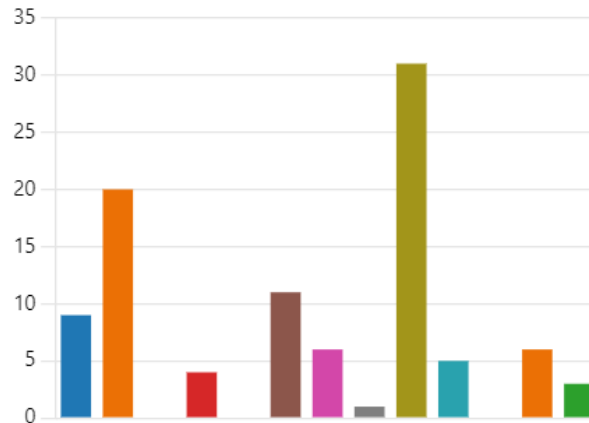
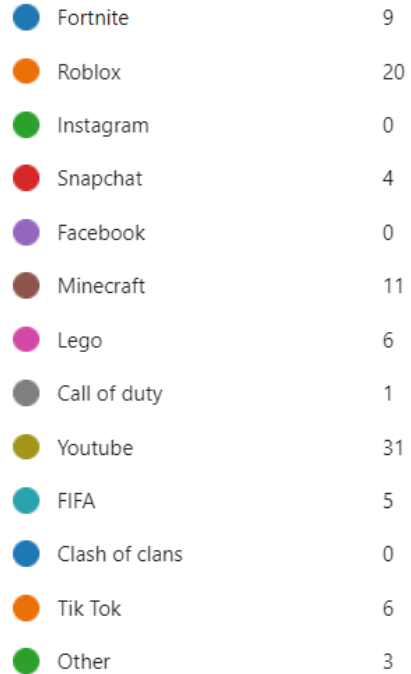


OnlineGaming

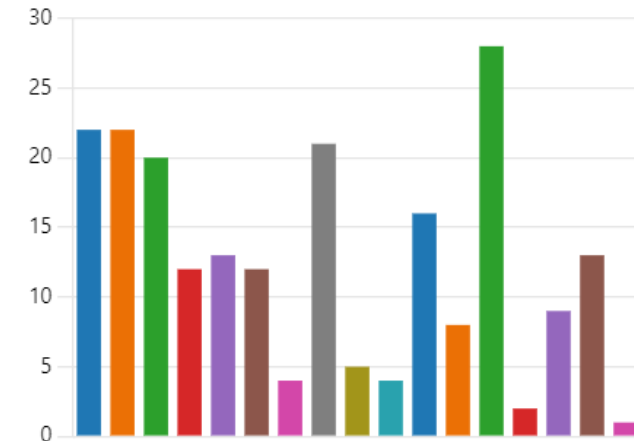
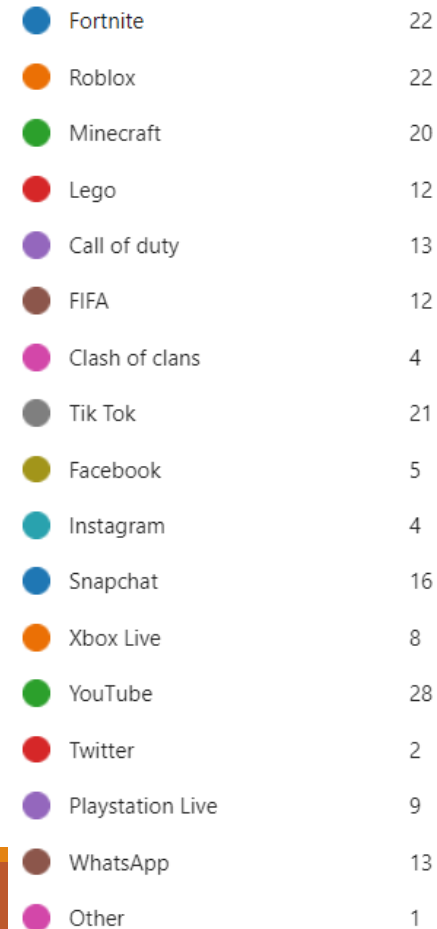


Our survey results

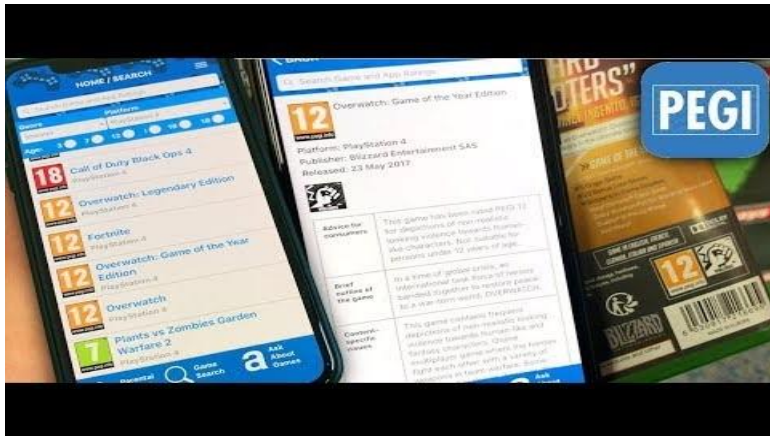
Parent responses



Pupil responses



Video Games



Children love playing video games both offline and online but how can we ensure they are playing appropriate games?

PEGI – a European video game content ranking system (age ratings and game descriptors)



PEGI ratings & Laws

PEGI ratings are ultimately there to support you (as parents/carers)

By allowing children to play a game when they are younger than the PEGI rating, no laws are being broken, however the children are not allowed to purchase the game themselves

With that said, the PEGI ratings are set by gaming experts who use their experience and judgement, alongside other experts and **we highly encourage you to follow them as closely as you can**

It is important to note that PEGI ratings also consider the level of communication available online which is critical for primary school children



Video Games

Roblox

Minecraft

Fortnite

Among US

Five Nights at Freddy's

Crossy Road

Call of Duty

GTA

<https://pegi.info/>



Video Games

Roblox	7+
Minecraft	7+
Fortnite	12+
Among US	7+
Five Nights at Freddy's	12+
Crossy Road	9+
Call of Duty	18+
GTA	18+

<https://pegi.info/>



Looking Beyond the PEGI Rating

The PEGI ratings are there to guide you, however you may want to explore them for yourselves first

If you Youtube the game, you can see reviews or actual gameplay – this is the best way to determine whether it is appropriate for your child

Do not be influenced by what other parents allow/don't allow. It is easy to seek advice from another friend but, ultimately, we all have our own values and opinions on things, so we would recommend exploring it for yourself



Video Games – Applying Settings

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/gaming-consoles/>

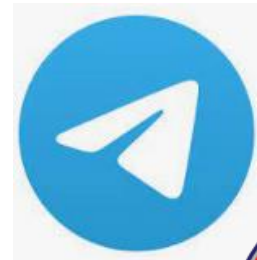
If you would like a specific guide printed or emailed, please ask me at the end.





Apps

Do you recognise any of the logos below?



Apps

These are the top 10 messaging apps/social media apps used by children.



YouTube



Instagram



TikTok



Facebook



Facebook
Messenger



Snapchat



WhatsApp



Twitter



Discord



Telegram



Apps

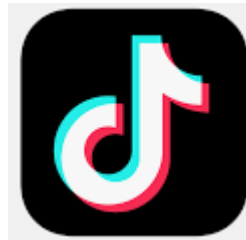
What do you think the age-ratings for these apps are?



YouTube



Instagram



TikTok



Facebook



Facebook
Messenger



Snapchat



WhatsApp



Twitter



Discord



Telegram



Apps

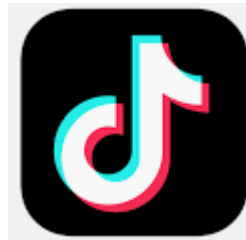
Are you surprised? Do your children use any of these apps?



YouTube - 13



Instagram - 13



TikTok - 13



Facebook - 13



Facebook
Messenger - 13



Snapchat- 13



WhatsApp - 16



Twitter - 13



Discord - 13



Telegram - 16



Apps & their age restrictions



These are generally 'guidelines' and the legalities behind these age restrictions are often more vague. However, often it comes down to parents/carers' permission.

Typically, as a school, we would not advise children to have their own accounts for these apps as the age limits are there for a reason.

However, inevitably some children/families do not follow these guidelines. If this is the case, it's important to know how to keep them safe:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/apps-guide/social-networking-and-messaging-apps/#popular-social-apps>



Things to look out for

Your child all of a sudden **doesn't want to spend any time** on their favourite device.

They are **quieter and/or less responsive** after using an electronic device – withdrawn.

They seem **irate or upset**.

Not playing with someone they usually play with.

Not wanting to come into school or play outside with friends they **normally** do.

Unwilling to share any information about their accounts.

Headaches, stomach-aches, vomiting, trouble sleeping.

Making passing statements about their life that are **obvious red flags**.



Video Games - What can we do to help?

Be non-judgemental, open and honest.

Let them know that you are always there to talk, even if they have made the wrong choice to begin with.

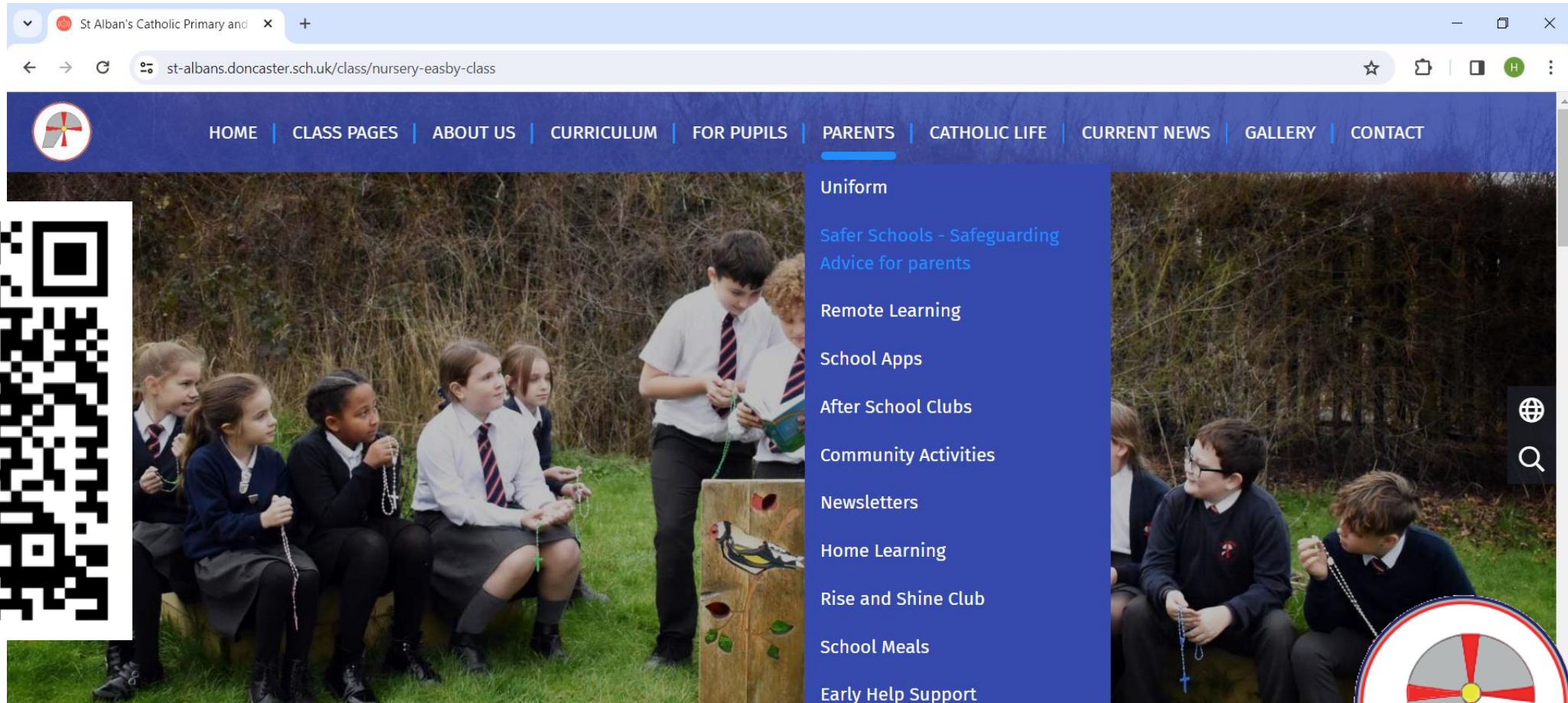
With primary school children, you should know their account details: let them know from the start that you will be regularly monitoring their devices to ensure they are safe.

Look at the 'conversation starters' handout if you want further advice at approaching such a difficult subject.



More support

<https://www.st-albans.doncaster.sch.uk/page/safer-schools-safeguarding-advice-for-parents/131418>



Thank you for your attention and ongoing support!

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

