

Alexandra Primary School

Online Safety Newsletter: July 2019

More control over your broadband

Do you have Vodafone or Virgin Media Broadband? If yes, they have their own apps which give you further control over your internet access.

Vodafone Broadband App

- View and manage all devices on your network.
- Control when your Wi-Fi is on.
- Receive notifications when devices join your network for the first time.

Virgin Media Connect App

- See how many devices are connected to your WiFi.
- Pause access to the internet for particular devices.



TikTok Update (users must be 13+)

What is TikTok? Users can watch musical clips, record 60 second clips, edit them and add special effects. You must be over 13 years of age to use it so if you do choose to allow your child to set up an account then we recommend users have a private account to control who can see their videos and who can send them messages. Tik Tok also includes a 'Restricted mode' to limit the appearance of content that may be inappropriate. More information is available here:

http://support.tiktok.com/?ht_kb=for-parents

Parent Zone have recently updated their website with a full summary of what TikTok is and how it can be used more safely so we would highly recommend reading this if your child does use TikTok:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok-everything-you-need-know-about-video-production-app>

Books to read with your child

Childnet have released their latest Digiduck book, 'Digiduck's Famous Friend.' This book is available to read online here:

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/digiduck-stories/digiducks-famous-friend>

Parent Zone crisis messenger

Parent Zone have launched a new service: Crisis Messenger text service which provides free, 24/7 support across the UK. If you are experiencing a mental health crisis and need support, you can text PARENTZONE to 85258.

Further information available here:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/parent-zone-crisis-messenger>

Does your child have an Apple Device?

Have you set up Family Sharing with Apple? Family Sharing allows you to create an Apple ID for those under 13 (they are not allowed to do it themselves) or for children over 13 who have already set up their ID, you can add it to your family group. Once set up, you can limit what content your child can access and also enable 'Ask to Buy' (enabled by default for children under 13 and you'll be asked to set it up when adding anyone 13 – 18 years of age.)

With Ask to Buy, whenever a child tries to purchase or download something (from iTunes, Apple Books, App Store, In-App Purchases or iCloud storage), a request will be sent to you to review and either approve or decline the request.

Further information about setting up Family sharing and an Apple ID is available here: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201084>

Creative Destruction – PEGI 12

This is a Battle Royale survival game with similarities to Fortnite. 100 players are parachuted into a battlefield where the aim is to be the last player standing. It is rated as 12+ by the App store which means you should be aged over 12 years of age to play this game. This is due to the game containing mild realistic violence and mild mature/suggestive themes.

Chat facility

Creative Destructions contains voice and text chat systems which may contain inappropriate language.



In-app purchases

You should be aware that whilst this app is free to download, additional in app purchases in the form of diamonds can be made, ranging from £0.99 – £99 per item!

Further information

Common Sense Media have produced a further review about this app here: <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/app-reviews/creative-destruction>

PEGI ratings explained

If you see this rating on a game then it means the game refers to or depicts the use of illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco. Games with this content descriptor are always PEGI 16 or PEGI 18 meaning you should be over 16 or 18 years of age to play the game.



Roblox – PEGI rated 7+

Roblox has appeared in the news recently as a mother reported how her younger son was being groomed as a result of playing this game. It's important to stress that the child was contacted via a third-party app that was not connected to Roblox (source: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-48450604>) but if your child is playing Roblox please ensure you set up all parental controls and monitor their usage as well, play and watch the game with them and ensure they are not connecting with third party apps.

More information is available here: <https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/categories/200213830-Parents-Safety-and-Moderation>.