

At Nunthorpe we take Safeguarding matters seriously therefore we subscribe to the National Online Safety updates.

Please take a moment to read the main areas and view the parental guides on the updates to ensure that all our students are safeguarded online.

“Fortnite: Battle Royale”

I am sure that many families are living with the Fortnite game at present. As with many online games, Fortnite: Battle Royale comes with risks to young people. The game is PEGI rated at 12+ however, there is no proof of age required, which can expose younger children to violent content as well as inappropriate comment from older users. ***Please see the [parent’s safety guide](#) for further guidance on this game.***

“Marvel – Avengers: Infinity War” – Marvel Strike Force.

With the release of the Marvel Movie this month, the mobile games related to this film are going to be popular particularly because they are free. National Online Safety are warning of the following:

The game is rated at PEGO 12 years – however no proof of age is needed when signing up.

There is a live chat during game play which could expose children to inappropriate conversations. This can be turned off in the settings.

Battling is central to the game therefore there is use of weapons and fighting.

The game is addictive: There are timers when new challenges and levels are released which encourages players to continually return to playing the game.

SKIN BETTING

45% of 11-16 year olds are aware of Skin Betting. ‘Skins’ are cosmetic elements in a games (Such as clothing). Skins can be earned, traded and bought with real money. BUT there are also opportunities for players to gamble their skins with the hopes of winning more valuable ones. ‘Skin Betting’ is addictive and is also an easy way to lose money, fast.

SNAPCHAT.

Please see the [parent’s guide](#) to the understanding of snapchat.

WHATSAPP

‘WhatsApp’ have announced that they will ban under 16s from using their service ahead of the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which comes into force on the 25th May 2018. Currently the minimum age for use of WhatsApp is 13 years. Under the new terms and conditions users will be asked to confirm their age and to nominate a parent or carer to give permission for them to share data. If users do not obtain permission, they will experience a less personalised version.

We do not want to stop our students having fun online but of course want them to be safe.