

# E-SAFETY NEWSLETTER

Issue 6

This week some advice on:-

**Being your child's role model**



## **Age appropriate content & PEGI ratings**

There are so many entertaining, yet addictive, games and apps out there that aren't always suitable for younger children.

There can be huge intrigue and temptation for younger children to access games and apps that older members of the family are using. Pan European Game Information (PEGI) ratings exist to help consumers make an informed decision about game purchases and they shouldn't be ignored. They are based on the following content-related criteria: violence, grown-up themes, discrimination, fear, use of language, gambling and illegal activities.

Many popular games offer online player communication capabilities and encourage the purchase of add-ons to advance within the game. Demonstrate your own scepticism when it comes to in-app purchases.

Is it really a good idea to spend money on 100 virtual diamonds when you have limited funds? If your child receives pocket money, you could suggest that they make their own decisions about how to spend it, including on the purchase of apps and add-ons.





## Apps use

Consider how you are using communication apps with friends. Try to model habits that show your own awareness of the permanence of online information. If anyone was to see the contents of your communications would this embarrass you in any way?

## Appropriate times

If your child sees you on your smartphone or tablet during dinnertime or late into the evening, what message is this giving them? You could allot explicit technology-free times for focusing on conversation or other activity.



