Online Safety: Playing Games Safely

Principles

All games are not suitable for children

We should be aware of the dangers that games can pose

What games can be played online?	How do we know something is appropriate?	Why are some games not suitable for children?
There are a range of games online for a range of ages. Some games can be educational others are just for entertainment. Some games are very popular with children: Minecraft, Super Mario etc.	Games come with PEGi ratings all the way up to 18. Apps also require parents to approve the downloading before being bought. Website will sometimes ask for birthdays but this is not always secure.	Some games can include very upsetting material which can affect people if they see them. They can upset or cause people to recreate in appropriate things. They can include: violence, swearing, nudity and more inappropriate materials. The PEGi rating is there to ensure children play what is good for them.
What games can benefit our education?	How do people communicate when playing games?	What are the top tips for gaming safely?
School recommends games to benefit education: TT Rock Stars, Top Marks etc. These can help us remember key facts and are enjoyable to play.	Some games allow people to message each other while playing. This can be with friends we know or random people with usernames. This can pose dangers as people can say upsetting things or try and get information from you about yourself. SMART rules we never Meet or share information with anyone we know online.	Games are not the be all and end all. We should set limits to what kind of games we play and how long we do it for. If in any trouble online or by ourselves then we should Tell from our SMART rules.