Ashtree Primary School & Nursery

Online Safety Newsletter 5

Dear Parents/Carers & Pupils,

Thank you for taking the time to read our 5th Online Safety Newsletter. We hope the information below supports you and your child to continue to enjoy technology safely.

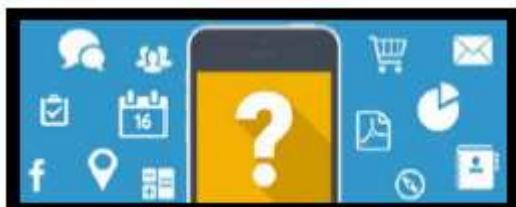## What Parents and Carers need to know about EMAIL scams

National online Safety have published a useful guideline to which parents and carers need to know about EMAIL Scams.
Click on the following link to download the guideline or copy and paste and search on your browser.
https://pmx.parentmail.co.uk/download/16d1aba41abd5bcccde1bdbf5a152ccdltw0ftc 2xymxbdsjm1kf8aah2gudz6rqev2moy9tobcg2b48vjspinlde8y5fo6vo9txiz4llqlfee51ccl 4ox2eytds07dstocl.pdf
For further guidance and useful information please go to www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Choosing apps - some tips for you as parents.

• The starting point would be to look at the age rating – is your child old enough to be playing it?
Also please be aware that apps are often rated by the developer themselves. https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news%2Fage-content-ratings-apps-games/

• Then think, regardless of the age rating, does the app include any communication options such as chat or

commenting? If yes, this can add greater risk and you will need to decide if the app is then appropriate. Try to use the app first so you can check it.

• Use the app with your child, show them any blocking/reporting tools.
• Does the app have any parental controls?
• Read the app reviews – is there anything that concerns you?
• Google the app – is there anything in the news that concerns you?
• Play and use the app together
• Talk to your child regularly about what they are doing online.

App in Focus

Roblox is an online game creator system where the majority of the content is created by "amateur" game creators. These game makers are able to create and publish games to the community using simple tools. And that means they can try ideas that wouldn't get funded for a commercial release.

These games can then be played by children worldwide, often online together, through a phone or tablet application or a web browser.

Roblox age ratings

Because the content in Roblox is user-generated it doesn't fall under the same rigorous age ratings as content made by commercial companies. Roblox itself is rated PEGI 7 in the UK, with rating details that explicitly say there is no blood. Roblox itself does filter and check the games that are being created both for inappropriate images and profanity. However, games are still allowed that can have horror, murder or bloody themes.

Roblox has a range of parental controls to support you and your child. These include: adding passwords to block in-game purchases, safe-chat with high filtering and the ability to view chat history.

Further information about how your child can enjoy Roblox safely can be found at:

https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/parents-guide-to-roblox-and-how-your-kids-can-play-it-safely/

https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/roblox-guide-parents