Holyport Primary's Online Safety Update #1

Keeping Safe When Playing Online Games

Online gaming can be a fun and creative activity for all the family. However, it is essential that parents/carers help children to be aware of the possible risks and help build the skills and knowledge to enable them to enjoy gaming in a safe way. Childnet has published a free leaflet that has a wealth of advice to help parents/carers ensure children are accessing games in a positive and safe way.

https://www.childnet.com/resources/online-gaming-an-introduction-for-parents

We have been informed of an incident which has occurred in relation to a game called Roblox. Roblox is an online multiplayer game where children can play and communicate with anyone who has the game on their computers. Children can speak to each other via chat rooms within the game. We are not recommending or condemning the game, we are just ensuring you are aware that there can be issues in relation to games such as these, with children not knowing who they are talking to online and they could be exposed to inappropriate language or suggestions.

As ever the best way to mitigate any of these risks in your family is to play the game together and keep devices and consoles in shared family spaces, where you are monitoring the conversations taking place. Keep the channel open with your child and have healthy and helpful conversations about appropriate online behaviour.

If you or your child are worried about something online or the way someone has been communicating, the CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command) service can be used and they can give you advice and follow up your report to them to protect your family and others.

https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/