



Online Safety Newsletter

May 2025

Wonderlab+

Are you looking for something fun to do online with your child? The Science Museum group have a wide array of activities, games and quizzes on their website:

<https://wonderlabplus.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/home>

Minecraft

Minecraft is rated as PEGI 7, meaning it is suitable for those over 7 years of age.

Minecraft is a game where players can create worlds using blocks. There are two different modes – creative and survival. In creative mode, users can build what they wish and have unlimited resources whereas in survival mode, players must gather resources, find food and defend themselves against mobs. Survival mode may include mild violence and scary characters.

You should be aware that there is a multiplayer option available where players can chat to each other. In-app purchases are also available to buy items such as skins, so ensure purchases are disabled or that a password or PIN is required to make them. Ensure appropriate parental controls are applied, on both Minecraft and the console itself. Find out more here:

<https://www.minecraft.net/en-us/article/parental-controls>

Further information

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/minecraft>

Cyberbullying

What is cyberbullying?

Cyberbullying is a form of bullying that takes place online and can take many forms, such as sending malicious messages. Cyberbullying can happen at any time of the day, so often feels unrelenting. It can take place across many different platforms, such as on messaging apps like WhatsApp and Snapchat, on social media platforms such as Instagram and TikTok and via online games. Here are some examples of what cyberbullying can look like online:

- Sending nasty or hurtful messages
- Leaving unkind comments
- Sharing photographs of somebody else without their permission
- Excluding somebody on purpose
- Impersonating somebody with a fake account
- Telling/sharing lies
- Blackmailing

What should I do if my child is being bullied online?

If your child is being bullied, then try to stay calm and let them know that it is not their fault. It is always useful to keep evidence of any online bullying and inform their school so

that they are aware. Show your child how to block and/or report any users/content and review their privacy settings to limit what others can see. You may also wish to review/set up any available parental controls.



Further information

There is a vast amount of information available online about cyberbullying. The following links provide further information on types of online bullying, and who you can contact if you need any further advice or support.

- <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/online-bullying/>
- <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/tools-information/advice-and-support/advice-parents-and-carers/sources-information-advice-and>

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