

Poltair School

Online Safety Newsletter: Fortnite



Fortnite: Battle Royale (age: 12+)

Fortnite is a multi-player online game where up to 100 players are dropped on an island and then fight each other until they're the only person left.

Fortnite is immensely popular at the moment and whilst it isn't as aggressive as other popular games, parents should be aware that Battle Royale does include an online chat feature (audio and on-screen text). **The chat facility means that players can be exposed to offensive language or mature content from strangers.** We strongly recommend that the chat facility is switched off or children are supervised whilst playing.

In game purchases

Battle Royale is free to play but players can purchase additional packs to access additional items for example weapons. The game does ask players to make additional in-game purchases whilst playing, though these are not required to play the game.

Advice from the UK Safer Internet Centre

(Source: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/parents-guide-fortnite-battle-royale>)

- **Have an open and honest conversation with your child**
It's important to involve yourself in your child's online life and a simple and effective way to do this is by talking to them about their life online. Try to maintain an open dialogue with your child and find opportunities to talk to them about what they love to do online. Parents can help children access the amazing resources the internet has to offer whilst keeping them safe online at the same time. Asking your child about how they play Fortnite and what they like about it is a great way to start a conversation.
- **Play with them**
It may seem daunting, but one of the best things that you can do is to engage with the gaming environment and begin to understand what makes Fortnite so attractive to young people, as well as giving yourself an idea of the reporting tools available within the game.
- **Know how to make a report**
On Fortnite you can report players who are behaving inappropriately by using the in-game feedback tool located in the game Main Menu, you can also make a report by emailing the creators of Fortnite.