



Safeguarding Update

Autumn 2023 - 2024



WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD

If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies straightaway.

If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police on 999

Meet the Designated Safeguarding Team:

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

- Mrs L Bassett-Cross

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:

- Mrs K O'Brien
- Mrs R Woodruff
- Mrs L Earl-Smith
- Mrs J Ireland
- Mr M Clifton
- Miss L Parker
- Mrs R Punchard
- Mrs Fyfe

School Safeguarding Governor:

- Mrs P Alexander

You can contact the DSL team on:

dsl@woodstreet.surrey.sch.uk

dsl@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk

The Safeguarding Team oversee and coordinate all aspects of the school's work to ensure that children are kept safe. They regularly attend training to ensure their skills and knowledge are up-to-date.

For a copy of our school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, please visit the federated website: www.wwfs.surrey.sch.uk

With the Christmas festivities just around the corner, children are looking forward to receiving gifts. For many, this may be devices that allow you to go online. Even with the best intentions, many parents are unsure as to how to keep their child secure.

It's Christmas Time – Parents guide to help keep children safe online

It's always best to be prepared

Many parents may be planning to give electronic gadgets to their children this festive period. Our guide is designed to help parents take a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games.

Scan the QR code to find out more.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with:

- Home Office
- West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit
- West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner

Skips www.skipsafetynet.org

GET TO KNOW AGE RATINGS

Age ratings are in place to help protect your child, so here is a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing. Did you know that WhatsApp has an age rating of 16?





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Whether your child is viewing films, accessing apps, playing games online, using social media or downloading other apps – check the age rating first to see if your child is old enough. In addition, the likes of PEGI include further content descriptors, which will give you an indication of the type of content that your child might view e.g. violence if accessing the app/game etc. It is important to note that whilst age ratings do allow you to see if something may be appropriate for your child, it is also important to review the content yourself. This will allow you to make an informed decision as to whether it is suitable for your child to access and if it would be beneficial to apply further parental controls. Parent Zone have published this article about why age ratings matter: <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/age-ratings>

ONLINE SAFETY- WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT EA SPORTS FC 24:

What's the most prolific partnership in recent football history? How about EA and FIFA? Their collaboration produced the most popular sports video game series of all time with 325 million copies sold worldwide. EA Sports FC 24 – the makers' new solo offering – now hopes to emulate FIFA's success. Find out whether it keeps a clean sheet against FIFA's traditional online safety risks with the following handy guide for parents.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 24

After two decades of holding the official FIFA licence, EA Sports' phenomenally successful football video game series has embarked on a solo run at goal. This season's iteration marks the debut appearance of a new name and branding, but don't let those fool you – EA Sports FC 24 is still a very similar proposition to last year's FIFA 23. Popular features such as Ultimate Team remain a big focus, meaning that potentially costly in-game spending is still among the line-up of risks that parents and carers should be aware of.

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 3

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

RECURRING RELEASES
EA Sports FC 24 effectively picks up the FIFA template – meaning that after a year, we can expect EA Sports FC 25 to hit the shelves. Updates between versions of the FIFA franchise tended to be minor, but young fans of the game are almost certain to want the new edition in around 12 months' time, so they can keep playing with updated team kits, players and squad lists.

OFFENSIVE VOICE CHAT
FIFA 23 introduced cross-platform play, and EA Sports FC 24 goes a step further with Clubs, Seasons and Ultimate Team cooperative modes across PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X and S, and PC. That's exciting news for youngsters who love to play with friends online – but connecting a much wider audience does potentially open lines of communication between children and far older online gamers.

IN-GAME PURCHASES
In FIFA, Ultimate Team proved to be a profitable innovation for developers Electronic Arts (EA), and is now found in many of their other titles. Players spend in-game currency to recruit better footballers for their team, but this process can take a frustratingly long time – so young fans may be tempted to skip the grind by paying real-world cash to unlock that coveted star midfielder.

ULTIMATE TEAM SCAMMERS
Since the mode was introduced, Ultimate Team has been a target of scammers who attempt to coax players into buying or selling outside the terms of service from EA and console manufacturers. This shady practice can lead to accounts being banned and in-game items being lost. In some cases, young gamers have also been hoodwinked into handing over their payment details to the fraudsters.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION
Just like real-life football, EA Sports FC 24 offers a thrilling, dynamic blend of tactical awareness and skill that fans find absolutely engrossing. Among younger players in particular, this could lead to indicators of a gaming disorder as they plead for 'just one more game' before bedtime or spend practically all weekend playing more matches to earn additional Ultimate Team packs.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONTROL SPENDING
If your child enjoys Ultimate Team mode, check that your payment details aren't linked to their account. Bundles of FC Points (the game's currency) start at just £1, so multiple payments can easily slip under the radar. You could consider setting your child an in-game allowance, perhaps through a prepaid card, which will help them to realise that online spending has a real-world effect.

DEFEND AGAINST SCAMMERS
EA does contact players via email (although not to ask for usernames or passwords, so watch out for that scam tactic!), but never through the game itself – so be wary of incoming messages and consider blocking and reporting suspected spam. Your child should avoid buying coins (the in-game currency) from external sites; it could end with them losing their money and being banned from the game.

AVOID EXTRA TIME
Many parents of young football-oriented gamers worry about their child playing too much EA Sports FC. There's now also a companion mobile app, which can also often provide another indicator that a child is struggling to disengage from the game. You could initiate discussions around set hours of play – or take stronger action by utilising the parental controls on their console or phone.

SHOW TOXIC CHAT THE RED CARD
Playing EA Sports FC 24 with friends is highly enjoyable, but if competitive types start to turn toxic online, it can ruin everyone's fun. You could occasionally listen in on the voice chat of your child's game for any warning signs that things may be about to boil over. This goes double when playing online with strangers: voice contact with unknown players can be turned off in the game's settings.

CELEBRATE THE VARIETY
Ultimate Team may be the game's 'star player', but there's plenty more to do in EA Sports FC 24 – including modes which allow access to all of football's big names without needing to spend money on packs to unlock them. This new version of the game includes even more women's teams, marking another step forward in representation: an important subject to discuss and celebrate with children.

Meet Our Expert
Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including iGEM and TechRadar.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday



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USEFUL ACRONYMS & VOCABULARY ABOUT SAFEGUARDING

DSL: Designated Safeguarding Lead

Early Help: "providing Early Help support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years".

TAC: Team Around a Child TAC (part of Early Help)

TAF: Team Around the Family (part of Early Help)

CP: Child Protection

ChiN: Child in Need

DV: Domestic Violence

PREVENT: Part of the PREVENT Governments Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn into extremism

Channel: A programme that provides support to people identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism.

LADO: Local Authority LADO Designated Officer who deals with position of trust safeguarding issues

GBV: Gender based violence is directed at an individual based on his or her biological sex or gender identity

County Lines: County Lines is when illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, often across police and local authority boundaries usually by children/vulnerable people who are coerced into it by gangs.

CME: Children Missing Education

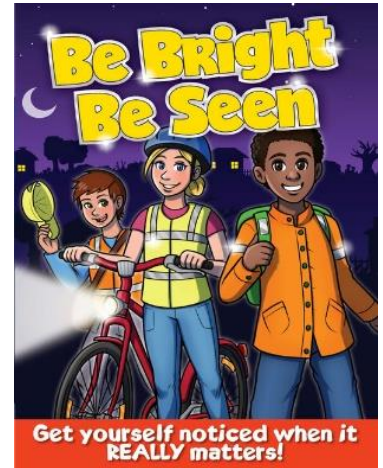
VENTM: Vulnerable Exploited Missing Trafficked. VENTM supports young people to reduce their risk in the following behaviours: Child Sexual Exploitation Child Criminal Exploitation County lines

ROAD SAFETY

We are always mindful for the safety of our children near roads and conscious of how vulnerable they can be.

At this time of year, with reduced visibility for drivers, your child is even more vulnerable near roads. With new bikes and scooters arriving at Christmas for some, the temptation to go out in the evening will be even stronger so there are some safety tips below so that you can discuss with your child/ren how important it is to be visible when near roads.

These tips emphasise how wearing brightly coloured clothing shows up well in daylight but, as it gets dark, reflective clothing and accessories are far more effective in signalling pedestrians or cyclists to drivers. For more information and activities to do with your child(ren) please visit:



<https://www.think.gov.uk/resource/be-bright-be-seen-game/>

5 top tips on how to BE BRIGHT & BE SEEN

- 1** Brightly coloured or fluorescent clothing shows up well in daylight and at dusk when you're heading to and from school.
- 2** If you're out and about when it's dark, wear reflective gear to make sure you can be seen in car headlights. Reflective vests, sashes or wristbands work well. Remember, fluorescent clothing doesn't work after dark!
- 3** Don't forget to accessorise! Even small items such as clip-on reflectors, armbands and stickers on your outfit or school bag are a great way to improve your visibility.
- 4** If you like to cycle, remember that it's the law to have clean and working lights at night (white at the front, red at the back), as well as a rear reflector. It's good to fit spoke reflectors too.
- 5** Of course, 'Being Bright' isn't the only way to stay safer. If you're out at night, choose routes and crossing places that are well lit and remember to always use the Green Cross Code.

For more road safety tips, games and videos, visit the Tales of the Road website at www.direct.gov.uk/talesoftheroad



✔ If you're concerned about a child call
0300 470 9100

✉ cspa@surreycc.gov.uk