

Empowering &
Preparing for
Success in a changing world.

Eastlands Primary School

April 2019

EPS Attendance
Target **96.5%**

R— 95.6%

Y1— 96.9%

Y2—95.8%

Y3—96.8%

Y4— 95.6%

Y5—97.5%

Y6— 94.3%

Overall attendance
for the whole
school for
February was av-
eraging at 96.1%.

**This is below
our target.**

Please help us to
raise this % by
ensuring your child
attendance is good
or better.

**Is your child's
class**

**“On time at
5 to 9” ?**

School opens at
8.45am when chil-
dren can go to their
classrooms and get
ready for the start
of the school day.
Please make sure
that your child is in
their class, ready to
work by **8.55am** at
the latest.

Online -safety

These are useful websites for parents to explore.



Any social networking site has potential for good and bad – it's the privacy settings and behaviour of the individual which are more important.

Parents need to monitor all social media and more importantly talk to their children about safe use.

Here is apps guide which promote safe use and highlight how children can keep themselves safe when they are interacting.



parents' guide to apps

Term dates. -

11th & 12th April Year 5 to York
12th April —School closes for Easter.
29th April school reopens for summer term
Week beginning 13th May—Year 6 SATs week
Friday 7th June—Year 6 to Skern

Happy Birthday to all our children who celebrate their birthdays in April

Rec: Constance, Claude, Kian, Kiya, Oliver, Shriya
1: Amelia, Millie, Mia
2: Imogen
3: Zayan, Akeelah
4: Matilda, Anna, Reid, Alphan
5: Oliver, Caspar
6: Edijs

Have you applied to admissions for your Reception age child?

Please follow this link if your child is 4 by end of August 2019

School admissions and appeals

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Dealing with Viral Media Scares

Children are naturally inclined to take risks as part of normal childhood development; by identifying a specific app or risk, we may encourage children to explore something that previously they had not been aware of, either out of curiosity, or because they are under the impression everyone else is using it (aka FOMO or “fear of missing out”).

Useful Websites:



About 'Momo' & dealing with viral media scares

Net Family News <https://www.netfamilynews.org/about-momo-dealing-with-viral-media-scares>

Useful websites for parents/carers:



Roblox - a guide for parents

See links below.

thinkuknow.co.uk/parents
childnet.com

saferinternet.org.uk

parentinfo.org

inter-

netmatters.org

nspcc.org.uk/online-safety



'Momo Challenge' Debunked – 6 Tips For Parents Dealing With Scaremongering 'Suicide Games'

Huffington Post:

Instagram – Online Safety Guide for Parents & Carers – Updated March 2019

Instagram is a hugely popular social networking app with over 1 billion snap happy users worldwide. The app, which is accessible on iOS and Android devices, allows users to upload images and videos to their feed, like an online gallery. Images and videos can be transformed with an array of filters to edit the shot before sharing.

In the news: On 1st March 2019, the NSPCC said that police in England and Wales recorded 1,944 incidents of sexual communication with children in the six months to September 2018, and Instagram was used in 32% of the 1,317 cases where a method was recorded. (Source: BBC)

Revised Guide for Parents & Carers Here: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/instagram-parents-guide/>

TikTok – Online Safety Guide for Parents & Carers – Updated March 2019

TikTok is a global video community where users create, share and discover 'funny and memorable moments' via short video clips – typically about 15 seconds long. Videos can be 'spiced up' with special effect filters, stickers, music and sound clips. Currently one of the world's most popular apps, TikTok was formerly known as Musical.ly, before it was rebranded by the Chinese company that acquired it in November 2017.

Revised Guide for Parents & Carers Here: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/tiktok-guide-for-parents/>

Parent guides for Fortnite

Child safety on Fortnite: parent factsheet

Fortnite is an online video game where players compete to be the last person standing in a post-apocalyptic world. The most popular version is Fortnite: Battle Royale, which sees up to 100 players pitted against each other to stay alive on an island. Players can build and demolish structures, and collect weapons, supplies and armour to help them along the way.

Players shoot each other using a range of lethal weapons, but the brightly-coloured, cartoon-style graphics and lack of bloodshed mean it doesn't feel too gory or graphic.

To play, the age recommendation is **12 and above** due to 'mild violence', although you don't have to provide your age when creating an account, so younger children can still log on easily.

Fortnite: Battle Royale is **free to download** on PC/Mac, Xbox, Playstation, Nintendo Switch and iOS devices (Apple phones and tablets). It's coming to Android soon.

It has about 45 million monthly users worldwide including the England football team, who reportedly played it in their World Cup downtime.

What are the concerns?

You may have seen news reports or heard concerns raised about the:

- **Communication between players:** a chat function allows players to talk to each other either over a headset and microphone, or using messaging. Children could use it to speak to strangers, or it could put them at risk of cyberbullying
- **In-app purchases:** players can build up large bills on their parents' accounts by buying cosmetic items like outfits for your character and better-looking weapons (otherwise known as 'skins')
- **Addictive nature of the game:** anecdotal stories tell of children staying up all night to play, or falling asleep in lessons after playing for too long. Some commentators attribute this to the communal feel of the game – you can play with your friends – and the game is different every time you play, keeping it fresh

What safety options are available to parents?

Use the parental controls on the gaming device

Most devices allow you to **set time limits** on game play, **set age limits** for content, and **restrict in-app purchases**.

Visit the website 'ask about games' for links to detailed instructions on the device your child uses – the site covers Playstation 3, Playstation 4, Xbox 360, Xbox One, Apple and Android phones, and Nintendo Switch.

[Ask About Games](http://www.askaboutgames.com/advice/parental-controls)

www.askaboutgames.com/advice/parental-controls

The battles in Fortnite last around 20 minutes. When trying to limit your child's screen time, make the most of this natural stopping point. Set a limit in terms of matches rather than hours and minutes, or set time limits in 20 minute increments.

Turn off the voice chat feature

Speak to your child to make sure they know this feature exists, and encourage them to use the options below if they encounter someone who is offensive or inappropriate.

You can disable the voice chat function in the game if you:

Parent guides for Fortnite

- Open the settings menu (the 3 lines on the right-hand-side of the screen), then choose the 'cog' icon
- Select the 'audio' tab
- You should be able to turn off 'voice chat' by tapping the arrows next to it

You can also 'mute' individual players in the game by:

- Pausing the game
- Hovering over the player you wish to mute
- Selecting the mute button (a loudspeaker icon)

Make sure your child knows how to report inappropriate behaviour

You or your child can report players who make them uncomfortable using the in-game feedback tool (located in the main menu).

You can also use the 'support' section of the Epic Games site (the makers of Fortnite). You're asked to select the platform you play the game on, the game mode you're playing, and then you can select 'report player'. You can provide more detail such as the player's name, and attach a screenshot.

[Support, Epic Games](#)

https://fortnitehelp.epicgames.com/customer/portal/emails/new?b_id=9729&q=email-us

What else can I do?

Further tips

- Download and play the game to help you understand it
- Talk to your child about what they're doing online, and make sure they know they can talk to you about anything that has upset them
- Check your bank statements and gaming system account balance regularly to look for in-app purchases you're not happy with, and to make sure your child isn't getting around any passwords you've set up

More sources of support

- Non-profit organisation Internet Matters has put together [5 top tips to manage children's screen time](#).
<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/guidance/5-top-tips-to-manage-childrens-screen-time/>
- The [National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children \(NSPCC\)](#) has a range of resources for parents on internet safety.
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
- The NSPCC has also teamed up with O2 to offer advice to parents. You can call their free helpline on 0808 800 5002, or [make an appointment](#) with an O2 Guru in an O2 store.
<https://guru.secure.force.com/O2DeskStoreLocator>

Sources for this factsheet

This factsheet was produced by [Safeguarding Training Centre from The Key](#).

[Fortnite, Epic Games](#)

<https://www.epicgames.com/fortnite/en-US/home>

['Fortnite chat raises stranger danger fears from NSPCC', BBC News, 3 May 2018](#)

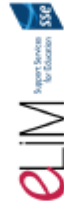
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-43988210>

[Fortnite: all you need to know, Net aware, from the NSPCC and O2](#)

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/fortnite-all-you-need-know/>

Eastlands Primary School

Parent guides for Fortnite



A Guide to Inform Parents

What is it?

Fortnite: Battle Royale is a game which combines Minecraft-style building with shooting for survival. It has been described as 'Call of Duty for kids' and has 40 million players worldwide. It can be played on the PC, Xbox or Playstation.

Why is it popular?

The game is fast and generally lasts no more than 30 minutes. It has a silly sense of humour and is popular with YouTubers such as DanTDM and JackSepticEye. Children may have seen their favourite YouTubers playing it and want to play it themselves.

Is it safe?

With safety settings and the involvement of parents, it can be a positive and engaging experience. The action is 'high quality cartoon' in appearance, and players work together to plan strategies and tactics. **Fortnite: Battle Royale** is rated PEGI 12 by the Video Standards Council for frequent scenes of mild violence.



For more information, read inside

Blocking and reporting

Encourage your child to report bad gamer behaviour—this might be cheating, griefing or abusive behaviour.

Fortnite have a support site where you can email a report to the developers for investigation <http://bit.ly/fornitereport>

Make sure to include the player's full in-game name, spelled as accurately as possible. If it looks like the player is using unusual or uncommon characters in their in-game name, take a screenshot and send this too.

If you are concerned about possible abusive or grooming behaviour from other players, consider using the CEOP Report Abuse tool <http://bit.ly/ceopreport>

Talk, share and enjoy

To really understand **Fortnite: Battle Royale**, play together with your child and talk with them about why they enjoy it. Talk about your concerns, and discuss how you can work together to keep safe.

Encourage them to share their gaming with you and give them the confidence to come to you if they have any worries.



More help and support

<http://bit.ly/internetmattersfortnite>
<http://bit.ly/commonssensefortnite>

www.somersetelim.org

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Parent guides for Fortnite

What do I need to know?

The game

During the game, 100 players leap out of a flying battle bus on to a small island and then fight each other until only one is left. Hidden around the island are weapons and items, including crossbows, rifles and grenade launchers. Players must arm themselves while exploring the buildings and landscape. Zombie creatures are also hunting you, but you can collect resources to build structures where you can hide or defend yourself. As the game progresses, the safe zone shrinks, so players are forced closer together. The last player (or squad) is the winner.

Players can play by themselves, as a duo or as a squad (up to 4 players). Each time a match starts, you are playing against other Fortnite users, and can hear their conversation. Sound is very important to the game – footsteps, chests of loot opening – so players will want headphones so they can listen out for noises.

Although Fortnite is a multiplayer shooter, it has a bright, friendly visual style and it does not depict bloody violence.

The players

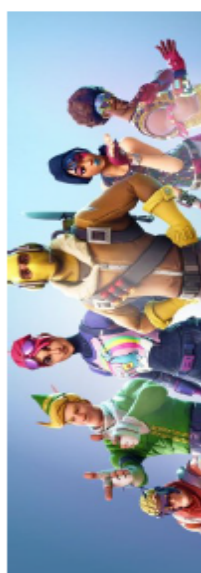
Fortnite is a multiplayer game, with an online chat option which can be turned off for players your child doesn't know. It's possible to team up with a friend, or group of friends, and compete as a duo or a squad. This adds a social element, and children can chat as they play using headsets and microphones.

Many children are now forming Fortnite teams, and spending a lot of their free time playing and practising the game together.

The cost

The game is free and players are able to unlock new items as they progress without paying anything. However, on the Xbox, you'll need a Gold Subscription to play online.

Fortnite has an in-game currency called V-Bucks. It costs £7.99 to download 1000 V-Bucks... If you purchase a Premium Battle Pass for 950 V-Bucks, you can get exclusive clothing and items, with new items released every week. The items are purely cosmetic and don't affect gameplay or give you an advantage.



Security, settings and screentime

To avoid children speaking to strangers during the game, set up a Party of friends before they play. This means that they are only able to communicate with people they know, and other players voices will be muted.

Although children will want to use headphones during the games, so they don't miss important noises, you should consider setting the sound so it comes through the TV and headphones. This means that you can hear what is being said during gameplay.

If they're playing on an Xbox or PlayStation you can use the parental controls to limit the length of gaming sessions.

Fortnite matches can last up to 30 minutes, and children won't want to stop playing in the middle of a game as they will leave team-mates in the lurch and lose any points they've earned for that game. You could use a timer, or discuss in advance how long you are happy for them to play.

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Bad weather—We are now into the time of year when bad weather can impact on school. If we have an emergency school closure or part day closure you will be informed through Rugby FM, our school website, on www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoolclosure and by text message as soon as possible.

Our school attendance target is:-

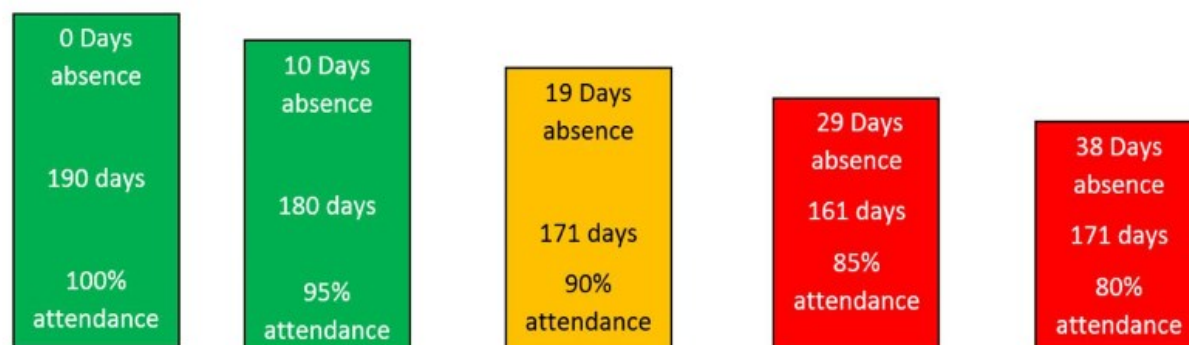
96.5%

Good attendance means...

Being in school at least 95% of the time (180 – 190 days a year)

There are **365 days** in a year and **190 days** in a school year.

This leaves 175 days for holidays, shopping, birthday treats and non-urgent medical appointments.



Good Attendance ← Poor Attendance ← Very Poor Attendance
Best Chance of Success ← Serious Impact on Education

Computer Fun

This month's recommended website for children:-

[Science games](http://www.primarygames.com/science.php)

<http://www.primarygames.com/science.php>

Always supervise your children when they are using the internet



Eastlands Primary School

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of Platt v Isle of Wight Council which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority