



Lessness Heath Primary School

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Head Teacher - Mrs K O'Connor

Deputy Head Teacher - Mrs L Shields

Respect Belonging Co-operation Honesty Perseverance Responsibility

21st April 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have recently been told about a gaming app/website that some of our pupils are accessing at home. The gaming app is called ROBLOX and looks just like a LEGO game.

As a school, we have a duty of care for our pupils and are striving to do all we can to ensure their safety and this includes ensuring that parents have the latest information to help safeguard our children.

We have two main concerns about the game:

Firstly, there is a messaging facility as part of the game where youngsters can be contacted by friends but also by strangers. The app states that it is "**the best place to imagine with friends**" but there is no way to screen contacts or disable the messaging. Bearing in mind the claim to have over 30 million users, we are concerned as parents have no way of knowing who it is children are talking to.

As with all messaging facilities there is also the risk of children of saying unkind things to their friends and things they wouldn't say to people in person. We have had reported a few cases of this recently, so would advise parents to be mindful of this.

Secondly, despite claiming to be a 'Kidsafe' site and to monitor the use of those under 12, we were easily able to make an account and then proceed to play games for over 18's despite saying that we were three years old on the account we had made. There are lots of these type of games including Grand Theft Auto, Call of Duty and Halo.

We would advise parents / carers to check if your child is using ROBLOX and ask would encourage you to be vigilant if your children are using the site.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. K. O'Connor
Head Teacher

This school is committed to the safeguarding and protection of children