

# SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

Made with School Council

## Keep your child safe on Fortnite

- › 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
- › The age recommendation to play is **12 and above** – but you don't have to provide your age when creating an account, so younger children can still use it easily
- › Fortnite: Battle Royale is **free to download** on PC/Mac, Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch, Android and iOS devices (Apple phones and tablets)

### What are the concerns?

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

- › **Communication between players:** they can talk to each other via messaging or a headset and microphone. Children could speak to strangers or be at risk of cyber-bullying
- › **In-app purchases:** children can build up large bills on their parents' accounts by buying cosmetic items, like outfits for their character, and better-looking weapons ('skins')
- › **The game's addictive nature:** there have been stories of children staying up all night to play, and falling asleep in lessons. Some people say this is down to the communal feel of the game – you can play with your friends – and because it's different every time you play



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## 3 steps to take to keep your child safe on Fortnite

### 1. Use the parental controls on your gaming device

Most devices allow you to **set time limits** on game play, **set age limits** for content, and **restrict in-app purchases**. Go to the website below for links to detailed instructions on your child's device – it covers PlayStation, Xbox, Apple and Android phones, and Nintendo Switch:

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

Battles in Fortnite last around 20 minutes, so make use of this natural stopping point when limiting your child's screen time. Set a limit in terms of matches rather than hours and minutes, or set time limits in 20-minute increments

### 2. Turn off the voice chat feature

Speak to your child to make sure they understand how to use this feature safely. Encourage them to follow the steps below if they meet someone who is offensive or inappropriate in the game.

To **disable the in-game voice chat function**:

Select the menu icon, then 'Settings'

Select the 'audio' tab (it's represented by a speaker icon)

Tap the arrows next to 'voice chat'

To **'mute' individual players**:

Pause the game

Hover over the player you wish to mute and select the mute button (a loudspeaker icon)

### 3. Make sure your child knows how to report inappropriate behaviour

To **report** players who make your child feel uncomfortable:

Select the menu icon, then 'Reporting/feedback'

On the 'Feedback type' tab, select 'Report player'

Select the reason you want to report the player

On the 'Select player' tab, select the name of the player you want to report

On the 'Submit' tab, select 'Accept' to send the report

Select 'Send report'

## What else can I do?

Download and play the game to help you understand it

Take a look at the other parental controls explained on the Epic Games website: <https://bit.ly/2o3YnaC>

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. See more guidance from the NSPCC on how to do this here: <https://bit.ly/1HpiYgO>

Check your bank statements and gaming system account balance regularly 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



# SUPPORT In the Community:

## Come to Yesu – where people matter

Yesu is a ministry of Life Church which provides community based services with a special emphasis on supporting parents to support their children.

It is based in Sheringham, but also provides support to parents who live in isolated villages. These areas are rural or coastal and have many of the problems associated with isolated village and seaside locations, such as high unemployment, deprivation, social exclusion, isolation, vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

The original work of Yesu was established in July 2002 and has relaunched following major refurbishment of the building in Autumn 2023 with a special emphasis to respond to the increasing need to support parents that are struggling to meet the needs of their children some of whom have specific disadvantages ie. Single parents, economic deprivation, social isolation etc. it seeks to provide community based facilities where anyone, can come and relax, have a cup of coffee and access specialist advice and information on a range of issues.



## come to yesu - where people matter

Yesu, 15 High Street, Sheringham, Norfolk, NR26 8JP  
T: 01263 825516 E: rachel@yesu.co.uk



**Come to Yesu- Parent Support Centre  
Tues and Thurs.**

<p>Jan/Feb Tuesday 's 9.30-12.30- drop in discussion theme</p> <p><b>How to support behaviours that are challenging</b></p>	<p>Jan/Feb Thursday's 9.30-12.30-drop in discussion theme</p> <p><b>Budgeting</b></p>
<p>Tuesdays 1-3.30 pm Breast feeding/ Baby Feeding Café. come and relax with others and access support about feeding your baby</p>	<p>Thursdays 1-3.30 pm Coffee and chat</p>

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### **Also at the Parent support centre**

**The Community Fridge** – Free surplus food

**Toys-** Free Toys available for birthday gifts etc

**The Uniform Swap Shop** –collect free pre loved school uniform items

For more info email: [rachel@yesu.co.uk](mailto:rachel@yesu.co.uk) / [www.yesu.co.uk](http://www.yesu.co.uk)

Yesu, 15 High Street, Sheringham, Norfolk, NR26 8JP. Tel:  
01263 825516

A place where parents can gather to support each other and access a range of practical based sessions & information

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Scan for Q&A's  
or find on  
NANSa Website.



# Holt Support Group

Supporting Families affected by diagnosed/undiagnosed  
Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

at The Tree house

Charles Rd, Holt NR25 6DA

**ALTERNATE  
WEDNESDAY'S  
TERM TIME  
ONLY**  
**10AM-  
12PM**

Drop in at any time for  
chat with other  
parents/carers and  
one of our friendly  
Family Support  
Advisors

Refreshments provided

More Info :  
[www.nansa.org.uk/sensational-families/](http://www.nansa.org.uk/sensational-families/)



STRONG ROOTS GROW WHERE GOOD VIBES GROW



## For any of your safeguarding concerns:

If you ever have a concern about a child or adult please speak to any member of staff who will support you, alternatively you can speak with our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr Amies.

We have updated the safeguarding page on our website. There are some helpful links to organisations that might be able to provide support for you, should you require, with such things as bereavement, benefits, debt, legal issues and more.

For more information, visit the safeguarding section of our website:

<https://www.sheringhamprimary.norfolk.sch.uk/our-school/safeguarding/>

We are able to offer support with many family issues, so please do contact Mr Amies, at the school, if you would like to discuss anything that we might be able to help with.

We also have trained Domestic Violence Champions for Change in school.

If anyone would like advice or information on this very sensitive area please contact Mrs Carter or Mr Amies.

## Useful Links:

[Our Safeguarding Policy](#)

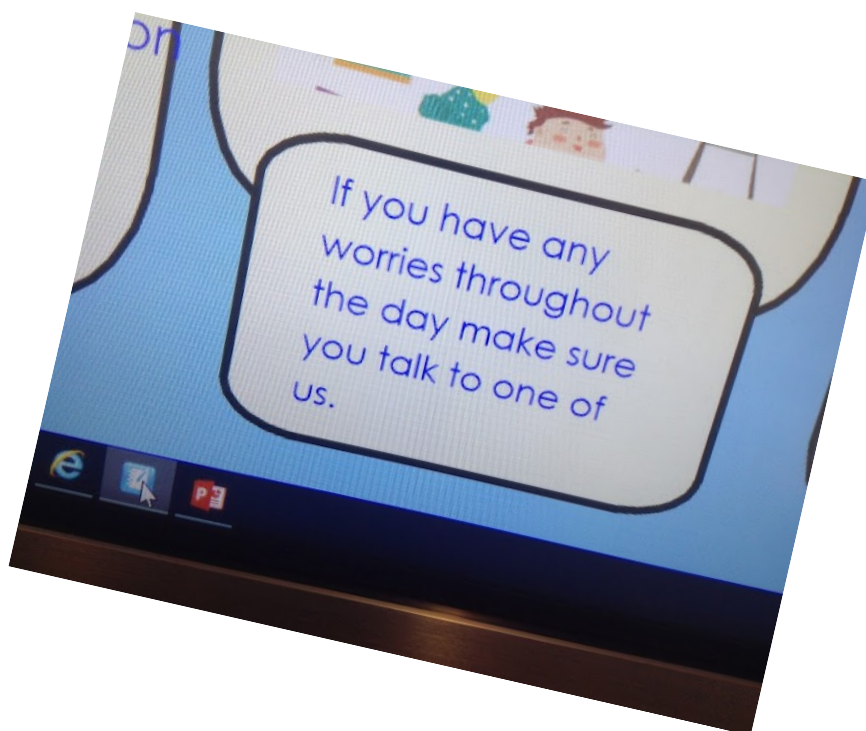
[Our Anti-Bullying Policy](#)

[Our Behaviour Policy](#)

[Our Attendance Policy](#)

[Our Curriculum Policy](#)

[Our e-Safety Policy](#)



Cooper Road, Sheringham, Norfolk NR26 8UH

T 01263 823848 | F 01263 824221 | E [office@sheringhamprimary.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@sheringhamprimary.norfolk.sch.uk)

[www.sheringhamprimary.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.sheringhamprimary.norfolk.sch.uk)



Sheringham Community Primary School & Nursery



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