# Rodings Primary School

# Computing Newsletter



### April 2021

## **Useful Links**

#### **Snapchat**

Useful guide to understand features of Snapchat.

#### Net Aware

Your guide to apps, games and social media sites.

#### **Internet Matters**

Helping parents keep their children safe online.

#### Parent Zone

Experts in digital family life.

#### E-Safety Zone

Advice, guidance and resources gathered by the '2 Johns'.

#### **Childnet**

Making the internet a great and safe place for children.

#### **ThinkUKnow**

Protects children both online and offline.



# **Disney+ Parental Control Updates**

Up until a few weeks ago Disney+ was aimed primarily at children and young people, now they have introduced a more adult themed media under the name 'Disney+ Star'. This new feature has more content aimed at more mature audiences. Due to this Disney+ has updated their parental controls.



Users are now able to restrict this new mature content on the home screen on each profile. Ensuring children in the family have access to appropriate content. You can change age rating settings to what you think is appropriate to individuals. You can also protect accounts with a PIN so that these settings are protected.

Disney+ guide to age restrictions

## **Twitch**



Twitch is a live video streaming platform with a minimum user age of 13. Any videos can be streamed on the platform but it is centred around gaming. Games such as Roblox, Minecraft and Fortnite are popular games that are streamed. Viewers are able to see the gamer's screen and hear commentary whilst they play.

Each live stream has a public live-chat, as the site is intended for teens and adults, it is difficult to manage the conversations. However, filters can be set for inappropriate content. There is also a private message or "Whisper" function on Twitch. By adjusting your child's settings, you can ensure that only friends that they've added can send them a whisper.

As videos are live, it is also difficult to completely filter content that is inappropriate for children. Streamers are supposed to label their channels as having mature content, however this relies on the streamer themselves and therefore isn't quaranteed.

Young people need to be very careful when live streaming, ensuring they don't give away any personal information. Videos on Twitch go out live, therefore it is very easy for streamers to say something they did not want to by accident. Anyone watching Twitch can also capture 30 seconds of video, to save and share after the live. Please follow this link for full Twitch guidance.

# Gaming Apps with adult themes to be aware of

Not all online games are targeted at under 18s, but there are some whose graphics and game play feel like they are. Recently, there have been a few cartoon games containing adult themes. Here is a list with their age rating:

Cunch-line Chronicles - **Official age rating – 17+ (recommended 18+)**ProjectMakeover - **Official age rating – 4+ (recommended 13+)**Hello Neighbour - **Official age rating – 12 + (recommended 16+)**Gacha Life - **Official age rating – 9+ (recommended 16+)** 

These games have references to drugs, criminal activity, horror, violence and other themes inappropriate for young children. Please follow <u>this link</u> to find out the specific concerns for each game.