

Does your child play the following games?



These games have been rated as only suitable for gamers over the age of 12 (Fortnite) and 18 (Call of Duty and Grand Theft Auto), and for very good reason.



Fortnite:

- Highly addictive game
- Has been linked to a rise in aggressive behaviour in children.
- It is a shooting game; the entire point of the game is to kill other players
- Players can link up with up to 99 other players in each game; with no parental restrictions in place, it is very likely that some of these will be strangers.
- Text chat cannot be turned off, and there are no filters for voice or text



Call of Duty:

- Violent and bloody shooting game.
- Uses a variety of guns, grenades, sharp objects, and even motor vehicles, to kill human enemies.
- Graphic depictions of dismemberment.
- Includes very coarse language.
- Studies show that games like this affect our brain's ability to process emotions.



Grand Theft Auto

- Action game brimming with:
 - gang violence,
 - nudity,
 - sexual violence,
 - extremely coarse language, and
 - drug and alcohol abuse.
- This game was actually removed from stores in Australia as it was feared it glamorised violence against women.

Would you expose your child to this in the **REAL** world?

Exposing young children to such content can be extremely damaging to their mental health and has a knock on effect on how they behave in 'real' life, away from their games console.

At Hart Memorial, we view exposure to such material as a very serious matter and will pursue it as a Child Protection issue should we hear of any of our pupils playing these games.

If you want to discuss any of this, or are worried about what your child is playing, please phone the school to make an appointment with Miss Shipley, Mrs McNally or Mrs Kinghan.

If you wish to check the age rating/suitability of any game your child plays, check it out at www.pegi.info.