Keep your child safe on Roblox

What potential risks are there?

Roblox can be a fun way for children to be creative and work together, but there are some potential risks you should be aware of.

- Inappropriate content: Roblox's user-generated content isn't rigorously age-rated like other platforms
- > Contact: strangers might try to talk to your child. This could be harmless, but some adults use platforms like Roblox to make contact with children to build relationships with them and later cause them harm

What is it?

An online game-creating platform where you can create and publish games (Roblox calls these 'experiences'), and play other users' games.

- > Bullying and griefing: 'griefing' is where someone intentionally ruins the game for others
- > In-game purchases: the game is free to play, but users can buy upgrades using the game's currency known as 'Robux'

8 steps to keep your child safe

1. Create your own Roblox account and link it to your child's account

Follow the steps on Roblox's site to create your own account, then link it to your child's account. Then, you'll be able to use parental controls.

2. Filter content by using Roblox's content maturity restrictions

Follow the steps under 'Content Controls' on Roblox's site to restrict the types of content your child sees.

3. Set controls on interactions

Follow the steps under 'Communication Controls' on Roblox's site to control who your child can talk to.

4. Tell your child to be careful about talking to people they don't know

Anyone can pretend to be a child online, so they should be careful about what they share and who they accept 'Friend Requests' from.

Roblox will automatically stop children under 13 sharing personal information, but it would be possible to make contact on Roblox and then move the conversation to another platform.

5. Set monthly spend restrictions to limit spending

Follow the steps on Roblox's site to limit how much your child spends on Roblox.

If your child plays Roblox on Xbox, you'll need to follow the steps on <u>Microsoft's site</u> instead (you'll need to set up a <u>Family Safety account</u> first).

6. Make sure your child knows how to report and block users

Roblox explains how to do this in its articles on reporting rule violations and blocking other users.

7. Talk regularly with your child about what they're doing online

Make it more of an ongoing conversation – that way, they're more likely to tell you if something goes wrong or upsets them.

See tips from the NSPCC on talking to your child about online safety: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/

8. Tell our school about any bullying your child experiences

If it involves other children in our school, we can follow our anti-bullying procedures. And even if it doesn't, knowing about it will help us to look out for your child.

Sources

This factsheet was produced by <u>The Key Safeguarding</u>: www.thekeysupport.com/safeguarding

- > <u>Parents' guide to Roblox and how your kids can play it safely, Internet Matters</u>
 https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/parents-guide-to-roblox-and-how-your-kids-can-play-it-safely/
- ➤ Online games, NSPCC https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/
- ▶ Parents, Safety and Moderation, Roblox https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/categories/200213830-Parents-Safety-and-Moderation

