

Tuesday 7th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We are being made aware of an increasing number of children watching the Netflix series, **Squid Game** and also a video game called **Poppy Playtime**.

Squid Game

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/wakeupwednesday/squid-game-trending-across-platforms-what-parents-need-to-know>



Squid Game has been given a **15+ rating** due to its sexual and violent content. While this is proving to be a popular show among adults, there are a number of reasons why it is not appropriate for children:

- intense levels of violence
- acts of a sexual nature
- threats of sexual violence
- themes of gambling

IMDb have released a Parent Guide to Squid Game outlining the specific inappropriate content:

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10919420/parentalguide>

Poppy Playtime

https://ineqe.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Online-Safety-Briefing-Poppy-playtime_03122021.pdf



This online game is described as an “introduction to horror”. It features frightening images and themes that are paired with child-friendly items.

This may be especially upsetting to children who have not yet developed the resilience to deal with disturbing content.

It features a character called ‘Huggy-Wuggy’ who is a giant, horrifying blue creature with bulging eyes, wide red lips and long limbs. There are multiple copycat versions of this game to download and play on Roblox, Minecraft and all app stores. **None of these games are age-restricted.**

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Squid Game and Poppy Playtime

Please also be aware that while your children may not be watching Squid Games or playing Poppy Playtime itself, a number of online games (e.g. Roblox), memes and social media apps (e.g. TikTok and YouTube) are also releasing content based on them.

We wanted to share this information with you so all families can be extra vigilant and aware of the content children have access to online. If you would like any additional information or support, or you have any Online Safety concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Martin". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly informal style.

Sarah Martin
Headteacher