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

> **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'

> **What is it?**
>
> An online game-creating platform where you can create and publish games (Roblox calls these 'experiences') and play other users' games.

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8 steps to keep your child safe

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

> Go to the Roblox website and select 'Sign up', then follow the steps to make your account

> Login to your **child's account** on the Roblox website, then select 'Settings'
>
> o On computers: select the 'gear' icon in the top-right corner
>
> o On mobiles: select 'more' (bottom right), then the 'gear' icon

> Select 'Parental controls', and then select 'Add parent'

> Follow the on-screen steps to verify your age (you'll need some kind of ID or a credit card)

> Select 'Agree' to link your account to your child's account

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

To do this, go to 'Settings' then:

> Select 'Parental controls'

> Select 'Settings you manage'

> Adjust the slider to select the maturity level you think is appropriate for your child. You can find a full description in Roblox's parental controls overview.

3. Set controls on interactions

The Key > Safeguarding

Change settings to control who can chat to your child or send them messages.

To do this, go to 'Settings' (as above), then:

- Select 'Parental controls'
- Select 'Settings you manage'
- Select 'Communication'
- Select 'Experience Chat'
- Select whether you want your child to be able to communicate with others in the following ways:
    - Experience chat – your child can speak to anyone else in the same 'experience' (game) as them using text chat
    - Experience direct chat – your child can send and receive direct, private messages from other users in the same 'experience' as them

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

Go to 'Settings' (as above), then:

- Select 'Parental controls'
- Select 'Settings you manage'
- Select 'Spending restrictions'
- Set a monthly spending limit:
    - The limit will reset each month and not roll over
    - You can also set notifications for your child's spending – see the parental controls overview for more details

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

Roblox explains how to do this:

https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/203312410-How-to-Report-Rule-Violations

https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/203314270-How-to-Block-Another-User

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 The Key Safeguarding:
www.thekeysupport.com/safeguarding

> Parents' guide to Roblox and how your kids can play it safely, Internet Matters
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