**Please edit the following text / delete as appropriate. Feel free to paste into your school letterhead / add your logo and share with parents in any way.**

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Underage use of inappropriate games and films**

SCHOOL NAME is committed to keeping children safe and to promoting the safe, responsible use of all online devices. We are aware that some of our pupils are accessing age-inappropriate games, films and other online content [amend/ delete as appropriate], including some which are 18-rated.

Your child may ask you to buy or let them play/watch such games/films, and they may try to convince you that ‘everyone’ else is playing/accessing this. Firstly, this is not true! Children may feel like they are the only one not accessing something, and we should acknowledge how they feel in these situations. But we should also use these situations as opportunities to recognise the responsibilities of parents and adults to keep children safe, and to help children understand the risks around technology use and to make more appropriate, and safer choices.

We would encourage you to please support your child to choose games/films that are more age-appropriate.

Please note that for games, ratings do not denote difficulty or enjoyment level, but that it contains content suitable for a certain age group and above. So even if your child is an advanced gamer, an 18 game will not test them more; it will expose them to graphic violence or explicit sexual content. This is not appropriate for their age and stage of development and can be very harmful. **Once you have seen this type of content, you cannot ‘un-see’ it.** Although your child may be growing up quickly, they all remain emotionally immature during their adolescence and can be negatively affected by things they see, so we ask for your support in this area.

On apps, phones, tablets and consoles there are always protections you can put in place to stop children accessing age-inappropriate content and we recommend you enforce these. You can find out more about games at [askaboutgames.com](https://askaboutgames.com) and [commonsensemedia.org](https://www.commonsensemedia.org) has reviews of films, games and apps to help you make your own decisions.

We also recommend that all parents visit the ParentSafe website for more information on keeping your child safe online ([parentsafe.lgfl.net](https://parentsafe.lgfl.net)), including how to set up parental controls.

If you feel that you, or your child, needs further support in keeping safe on the internet, please contact **[ NAME / DETAILS ].**

With thanks for your continued support.