

What every parent needs to know about

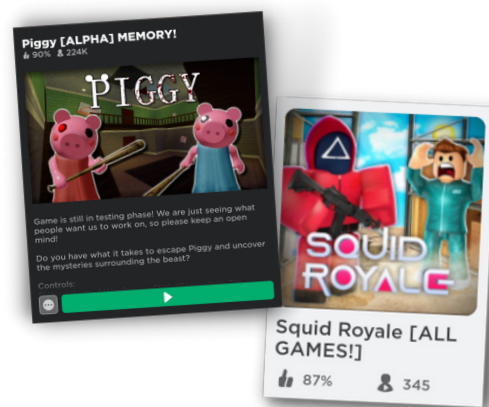
ROBLOX

From graphic violence (ie. Squid Game) to sexual role play, parents need to be aware of how Roblox can be managed in order to minimise risks. Digital safety educator and primary school teacher, Marty McGauran, shares his insights into the hugely popular online game.

Let's keep this short and straight to the point. I played, chatted and immersed myself in the world of Roblox for hours on end and what I discovered was eye opening! Firstly, parents should be aware that when their kids play Roblox they are playing online with other players from across the globe. There is no offline version or easily accessible private servers like Minecraft (NB. private servers can be created but cost money and are complex to set up). Therefore one of the biggest risk factors for young people playing Roblox is navigating the other players (including adults).

Another key understanding parents must have is that Roblox is not a single game, it is made up of thousands of "user created" games. The people creating these games are most likely adults and the content included can vary from infantile all the way up to horror & violence themed games (see image).

www.bit.ly/roblox4parents



On top of the fact that many of the games are grossly inappropriate for young children, the other players within these games present a whole other element of risk (dominatrix dress ups anyone?). Roblox also provides a platform for direct (private) messaging between players. With chat and direct messaging enabled, navigating online predators is a risk your children are guaranteed to encounter.

The good news is that many of these risks can be managed (and minimised) by enabling the parental controls within the settings. Visit the link beside to find easy to follow, step by step instructions to set up parental controls.

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