



Welcome to our second Digital Safety Newsletter. I hope that this brings you some advice to help your children stay safe on line and understand some more about their digital presence. Please find alongside this newsletter, an Online Safety Guide for Parents published by internetmatters.org. A digital copy can also be found [here](#).

Many Thanks Mrs Grant

ADVICE TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILDREN

GACHA LIFE



How does it work?

Users can choose different outfits and accessories for their characters to wear and can customise parts of their appearance like their hair and eyes. They can choose from 8 mini-games to play or can create scenes in Studio Mode and become 'friends' with non-player characters (NPCs). Some users may upload their Gacha Life stories onto other platforms to share with others.



Source: Internetmatters.org

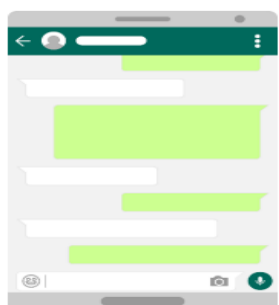
Is it safe for children?

The Gacha Life app has been given an age-rating of 9+ on the Apple App Store and Everyone on the Google Play Store.

Parents should be aware of the chat feature, access to in-app purchases and in-game ads. Ensure you have [disabled in-app purchases](#) to limit spending.

In some instances, concerns were raised about incidents of strangers requesting underage age users to verify their age by sending inappropriate images of themselves. So, it's important to [have conversations with your child](#) about what they do online and who they talk to. This will help them develop their critical thinking of what is and is not acceptable. It's important they understand when to flag something to an appropriate adult should they get such requests.

Gacha Life's privacy policy encourages parents to be vigilant with their "children's use of e-mail and other online communications and transactional features." Parents may request a review and/or removal of their child's personal information at any time by [contacting Gacha Life](#) and providing them with the same screen name, password and email address that your child submitted



Did you know?

Whatsapp recommended age is 13 whilst the app is 16+

WHAT IS IN THE NEWS?

Children may come across news that upsets them, worries them, or makes them feel anxious. Newsround have produced this article, which you can share and read with your child providing them with tips about what to do if they are feeling sad about the news:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/13865002>

How can I support my child?

The following article provides advice on how to help your child cope with the media coverage of traumatic events, for example the current news around the war in Ukraine or Israel and Hamas:

<https://www.parents.parentzone.org.uk/morearticles/helping-your-child-cope-with-media-coverage-of-traumatic-events>

New CyberSprinters activities (7 – 11 year olds)

The National Cyber Security Centre have released a new set of activities and interactive stories. As well as the original CyberSprinters game

(<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/cybersprinters>), you can now access puzzles that you can solve with your child and read interactive stories together.

These activities are available here:

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/cybersprinters/home-activities>

These resources will encourage conversations about how we can keep our information secure online.