

I.C.T Policy: Minecraft Pocket Edition

Dear Parent / Guardian,

The School Council have been busy debating the advantages and disadvantages of using *Minecraft Pocket Edition* in the classroom. After a lengthy discussion we have come to the conclusion that *Minecraft Pocket Edition* should be used as an educational tool at our school.

Our aim at Ysgol Gymraeg Gwenffrwd is to provide interesting, engaging and child-friendly lessons. We believe the *Minecraft Pocket Edition* app would support this, and as a result be a great addition to our school.

Minecraft is a popular game amongst both children and adults. However, the children would be using a special edition of the game called *Minecraft Pocket Edition*. This version of the popular game will only be available on the school iPads. When using this version of the app the students can only talk to other students within the school using our secure internet connection at Ysgol Gymraeg Gwenffrwd. Children will not be able to 'talk'/connect with anyone outside the school.

What is Minecraft Pocket Edition?

Students create structures on the computer in a 3D environment (similar to Lego). It is a game which allows children to explore, build and create almost anything they can think of. *Minecraft Pocket Edition* is different to other games as its objectives are to construct objects/ideas rather than destroy them.

Minecraft Pocket Edition is an inclusive game for all children as it can be played on any level. Most games require that you complete challenges in order to move on to the next level. *Minecraft Pocket Edition* is different as it allows children to create their own world and adventures on any level of play.

How will Minecraft Pocket Edition help my child at school?

Minecraft Pocket Edition will be used in the classroom as a tool to support a variety of Curricular lessons.

Here are a few examples

- Mathematics - doubling and halving. Making castles / buildings double or half the size. Studying 3D buildings.
- Literacy (Reading) - Students can reconstruct settings and scenes from what they are reading to make sure that they understand the text.
- Literacy - Writing detailed instructions on how to build a house.
- History - Create replicas of ancient buildings i.e. Ancient Rome or a Celtic Hill-fort.
- Geography -Space and area.
- It can also improve children's co-operation and communication skills.

In order for us to use this app in a safe environment, it is imperative that children at Ysgol Gymraeg Gwenffrwd use this app safely and agree to the following rules -

1. This app must only be used under the supervision of school staff
2. Should only be used to support lesson objectives
3. Children will not be allowed to purchase items on the app.
4. Use the app and iPad / computer respectfully.

Thank you
School Council Members

Under the guidance of
Mrs A Williams and Mrs Elen Mai Jones

Please return this slip to school in an envelope (labelled with your child's name) to your child's class teacher.

Ysgol Gymraeg Gwenffrwd: Minecraft Pocket Edition Agreement.

Declaration

I _____ (name of parent) have read this policy with my child and support him/her using *Minecraft Pocket Edition* at school for educational purposes.

I _____ (child's signature) will use the *Minecraft Pocket Edition* app respectfully and purposefully, and I understand that if **I break the rules, the privilege of using this app will be taken away from me.**

Signed:- _____ (parent)

_____ (Pupil)

Date:- _____