# Esports acceptable use agreement

[School name]

[Local authority name]

## Introduction

This agreement outlines the expectations and responsibilities for learners participating in esports at [school name]. Esports provides opportunities for teamwork, strategic thinking, and digital and creative skills. To ensure a safe and positive experience, all participants must follow the guidelines below.

## Purpose

To ensure a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all learners participating in esports activities.

## Core principles

These values underpin all esports activities.

### Fair play

Competing with respect and fairness, both during matches and within the community.

### Inclusion

Treat all players, staff and spectators with dignity. Discrimination or harassment will not be tolerated.

### Digital well-being

Promote healthy screen time habits and digital and creative skills.

### Learning and growth

Develop teamwork, communication, strategic thinking and resilience.

## Participation and behaviour expectations

By joining the esports club or team, learners agree to:

* follow all school rules and policies
* represent the school positively in all esports-related activities
* respect teammates, opponents, staff and equipment
* demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times
* use respectful language in voice and text chat
* avoid and report toxic behaviour, including:
* bullying, harassment and discrimination
* verbal abuse, such as using hate speech or making personal attacks on other players
* griefing, which is intentionally making the game experience worse for others
* cheating or using exploits in the game to gain an unfair advantage
* trolling or intentionally causing chaos in the game
* follow the age rating and content guidelines of all games played
* accept wins and losses with grace
* follow the rules of the game and any tournament-specific regulations
* respect referees, organisers and opponents

## Online safety and digital conduct

Learners must:

* never share personal information online
* use only approved platforms and communication tools
* report any inappropriate behaviour or content to a staff member immediately
* obtain staff approval before streaming or recording gameplay
* ensure all safeguarding rules are adhered to
* follow school online safety guidance at all times

## Equipment and facilities

Learners must:

* treat all equipment with care and report any damage
* use school devices and networks only for approved esports activities
* not have food or drink near gaming equipment

## Attendance and commitment

Learners must:

* attend scheduled practices and matches unless excused
* notify staff in advance if they are unable to attend
* participate in team meetings and training sessions

## Health, well-being, and digital balance

Learners must:

* take regular breaks during gaming sessions
* maintain a healthy balance between esports, academics and physical activity
* speak to a staff member if feeling overwhelmed or stressed while participating in esports

## Sanctions and consequences

Violations of this agreement may result in:

* verbal or written warnings
* temporary or permanent suspension from esports activities
* disqualification from events
* escalation to school leadership or safeguarding teams
* further disciplinary action in line with the school’s behaviour policy

## Cyber-crime awareness

Learners must understand the legal risks of online behaviour. The Computer Misuse Act 1990 includes offences such as unauthorised access, use of cheat tools and hacking.

## Parent or carer consent

Participation requires signed consent from a parent or guardian, acknowledging:

* awareness of the games being played
* understanding of online safety measures
* agreement with the terms outlined in this document

## Agreement and signatures

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| --- | --- |
| Learner name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Parent or carer name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |