



15<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents,

In the last couple of weeks, it has come to light that children from different year groups across the school are playing a game on the playground called 'red light, green light'. For those of you who are not aware, this game is part of a series on Netflix called 'Squid Game'. Squid Game has the rating of 15+ and is not appropriate for primary aged children to watch due to 'sexual violence references, injury detail, crude humour, sex, suicide, sexual images and violence'.

Squid Game is attracting a lot of attention in the media for being one of the most watched series on Netflix. Unfortunately, and as is usually the case, this has resulted in social media posting lots of graphic imagery and videos. In particular, it has now become one of the latest videos on Tiktok, for children 13 and over. Tiktok is a platform widely accessible where users upload short videos for others to like. The more likes they receive, the more likely the video will appear in other feeds and so a lot of the Squid Game videos are starting to build momentum and reach a much wider audience. I am aware that some older children in school have Tiktok accounts, which I am sure will have restricted access. However, this will not always stop some of the videos getting through.

Having watched part of an episode, I feel I must highlight to parents that it really is not suitable for any child to watch. However, I can see that some children have watched it because we are starting to see replications of the games on the playground, which might result in children inflicting injuries on each other if they 'lose' the game. We are going to talk to all children about not playing the game on the playground, but please can I urge all parents to check their Netflix parental control guide and monitor their child's access to Tiktok to ensure they are not exposed to it.

Please see below for some links that parents may find useful:

Safer Schools Safeguarding update – Squid Game

<https://www.oursaferschools.co.uk/2021/10/08/squid-game/>

Netflix parental controls guide:

<https://help.netflix.com/en/node/264>

Yours faithfully,

T Hinkley  
Headteacher