

Crypto gaming

Parent Guide — Everything you need to know about the cryptocurrency gaming trend

Age rating

18+

What is crypto gaming?

Crypto gaming allows players to make money while gaming, using blockchain technology.

A **cryptocurrency** is a **digital currency** run using a blockchain. It has value like any regular currency, but its **value can fluctuate dramatically**.

The **blockchain** keeps track of that currency's transactions. When a game is run on a blockchain, **users create tokens of cryptocurrency**, which they can 'cash out' into regular money.

Although the games have an age rating of 18+, all you need to start playing is a **cryptocurrency wallet**. Any child **aged 13+ can download a wallet**, but they will need **parental permission**. If your child has a wallet, be aware that they could sign up to play.

What are some examples?

[Axie Infinity](#) is currently the most popular crypto game. Players purchase three characters with cryptocurrency in order to start playing. Each character is an **NFT, or non-fungible token**. This means that it is a unique digital object, and is worth money based on its rarity.

After buying these characters, players engage in **adventures, quests and battles**, or **breed new, rarer characters**. Players win in-game tokens of the cryptocurrency **Ethereum**, which can be exchanged into GBP.

Other popular crypto games include **Splinterlands**, **Crypto Kitties** and **Gods Unchained**.

What are the risks?

Crypto gamers often have to **invest a lot of money to just start playing**, and there is **no guarantee** that you may be successful within the game. The **value of the cryptocurrency can also change dramatically**, which affects any earnings.

Children and young people could also feel **pressure to keep spending money** within the game, particularly if they are watching other streamers who may have spent lots.

There are many games emerging, as well as some that appear to be **scams**. If the game is run on a seemingly new cryptocurrency, it might be best to avoid it.

What else should I know?

Most blockchain games appear to be **designed with children in mind**; they use **bright colours, fun characters and engaging gameplay**. But the financial risk means that they **aren't suitable for under-18s**.

Make sure your child **feels comfortable** talking to you about **any problems or worries** they may have about this gaming trend.