



## Important information on copyright

**Avoid using commercial chart or well-known music tracks, or images from a game as these will not be copyright free. We will not be able to accept any films that do not adhere to this. We can only accept film entries which feature original or royalty free images and sound. Make sure that you use original music and images or have obtained the rights to use sourced music or images.**



### What does copyright mean?

Copyright refers to the legal right of the owner of intellectual property and is there to protect those who work in the creative industries, allowing them to be rewarded fairly for their work and to continue to create music, film and TV programmes. It also means that the creators are able to invest in new content, albums, films and TV. Or in simpler terms, copyright means having the right to copy. So, before you use any music or existing footage, such as images from an online game, in your film, it is important that you familiarise yourself with the legal aspects of this. If you don't have permission, you shouldn't be using it. We strongly advise that you read the copyright section on our website for more information: [www.childnet.com/resources/downloading/what-is-copyright-and-why-is-it-important/](http://www.childnet.com/resources/downloading/what-is-copyright-and-why-is-it-important/)



### What are Creative commons?

Creative Commons licenses are copyright licenses often applied to digital content. They allow creators and other rights holders to offer certain usage rights to the public while reserving other rights. More information about Creative Commons licenses can be found here: [Frequently Asked Questions - Creative Commons](#)

## What about downloading and using music?

Using illegal sites and file-sharing programmes can be risky and if you download digital content illegally, you could be breaking the law and face consequences. There are a multitude of websites which promote copyright or royalty free music. Make sure that you read the small print as many sites ask for a license fee to use the track. There may be different conditions for how and where it will be used too. Film creating/editing software may also offer music to use for free within a project, but this does not always mean that you have a license to use the track. For example, some may provide tracks free of charge but ask for you to credit them with a link to their website. The safest bet is to record something from scratch but if you do choose to use something pre-recorded, then make sure you do have permission or the right to use it.