EUROPEAN YEAR OF DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION 2025

WHY IS DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION IMPORTANT

In today's world, **understanding the impact of digital technology** on our lives is essential. Digital environment and technologies offer unprecedented **opportunities** but also raise new **challenges**.

DIGITAL ENVIRONMENTS

OPPORTUNITIES

- LEARN
- SOCIALISE
- CREATE
- PARTICIPATE

CHALLENGES

- HUMAN RIGHTS
- WELL-BEING
- DEMOCRACY

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TO FACE THE CHALLENGES OF TODAY AND TOMORROW

Digital citizenship education **empowers** citizens to overcome the challenges that have emerged or been amplified by digital technology.

DCE helps citizens of all ages to get the best out of digital technology, enabling them to:

1. use digital technology effectively to **think critically** and **act responsibly** online;

2. cooperate meaningfully both on- and offline, **contribute positively to society**;

3. **appreciate other cultures** and other people's perspectives;

4. understand, **protect and respect** their own rights, and those of others;

5. carefully **manage their own private information** and the information of people they interact with;

6. **continue learning** throughout life to keep up with emerging opportunities and threats.

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CONCEPT OF DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

ACCESS AND INCLUSION
Overcoming digital exclusion and being open to diversity

LEARNING AND CREATIVITY
Developing competences for creative and innovative expression

MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY
Interpreting and using digital media with a critical mind

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION
Preparing citizens for the world of today and tomorrow

ETHICS AND EMPATHY
Recognising and understanding the feelings and perspectives of others

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
Being aware of the digital technology impact on body and mind

E-PRESENCE AND COMMUNICATION
Developing the qualities needed to maintain a positive online self-image

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
Playing an active role and making responsible decisions to shape the digital environment
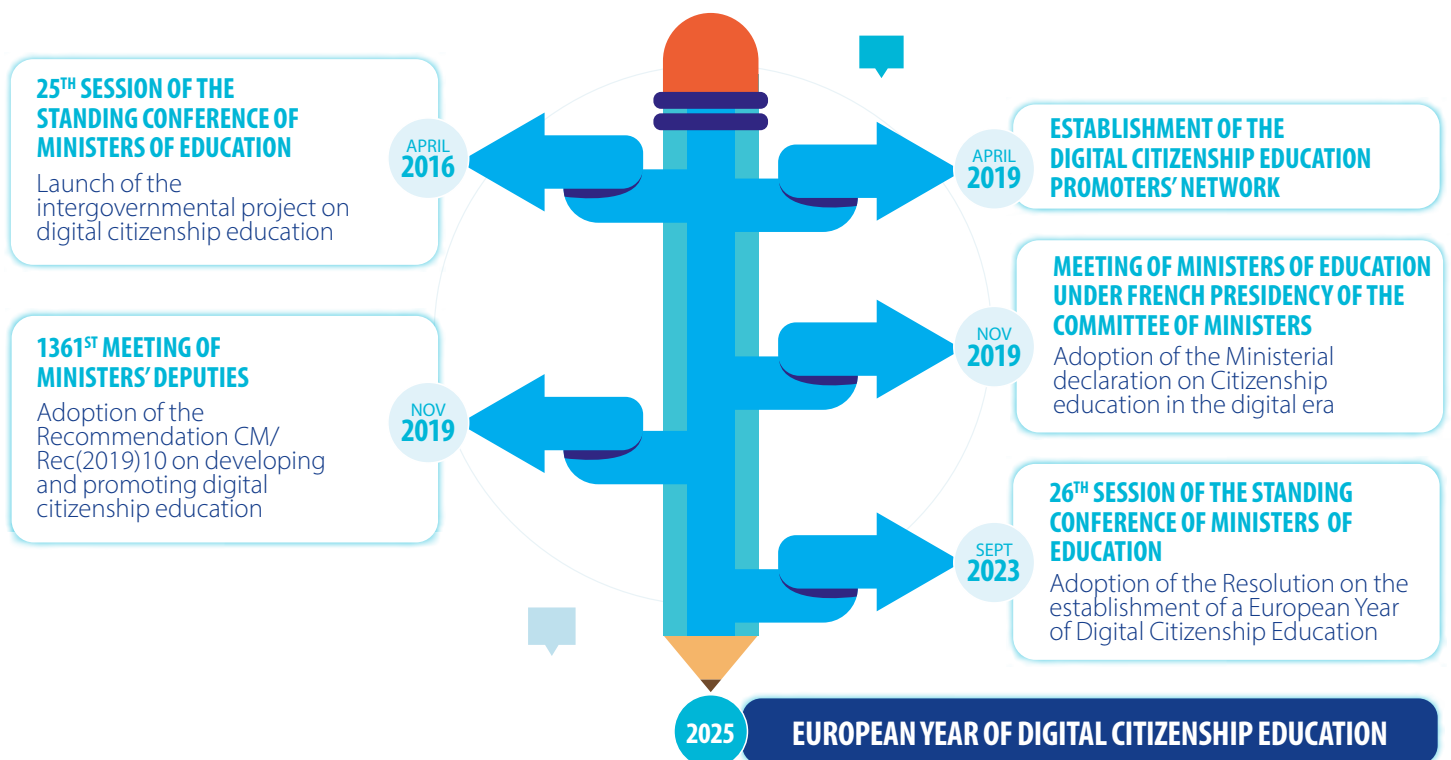
PRIVACY AND SECURITY
Knowing how to protect information and personal data of ourselves and others

CONSUMER AWARENESS
Navigating responsibly and ethically in online spaces as a consumer, a user and entrepreneur

BACKGROUND

APRIL 2016
25TH SESSION OF THE STANDING CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF EDUCATION
Launch of the intergovernmental project on digital citizenship education

NOV 2019
1361ST MEETING OF MINISTERS' DEPUTIES
Adoption of the Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)10 on developing and promoting digital citizenship education

APRIL 2019
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION PROMOTERS' NETWORK

NOV 2019
MEETING OF MINISTERS OF EDUCATION UNDER FRENCH PRESIDENCY OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS
Adoption of the Ministerial declaration on Citizenship education in the digital era

SEPT 2023
26TH SESSION OF THE STANDING CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF EDUCATION
Adoption of the Resolution on the establishment of a European Year of Digital Citizenship Education

2025
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EUROPEAN YEAR OF DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION 2025

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

ADDRESS THE URGENT NEED FOR INCREASED EFFORTS AND INVESTMENT IN DCE TO EFFECTIVELY RESPOND TO CHALLENGING ISSUES AND EVOLVING THREATS

KEY OBJECTIVES

Enhance the visibility of Digital Citizenship Education

Promote the take-up of DCE

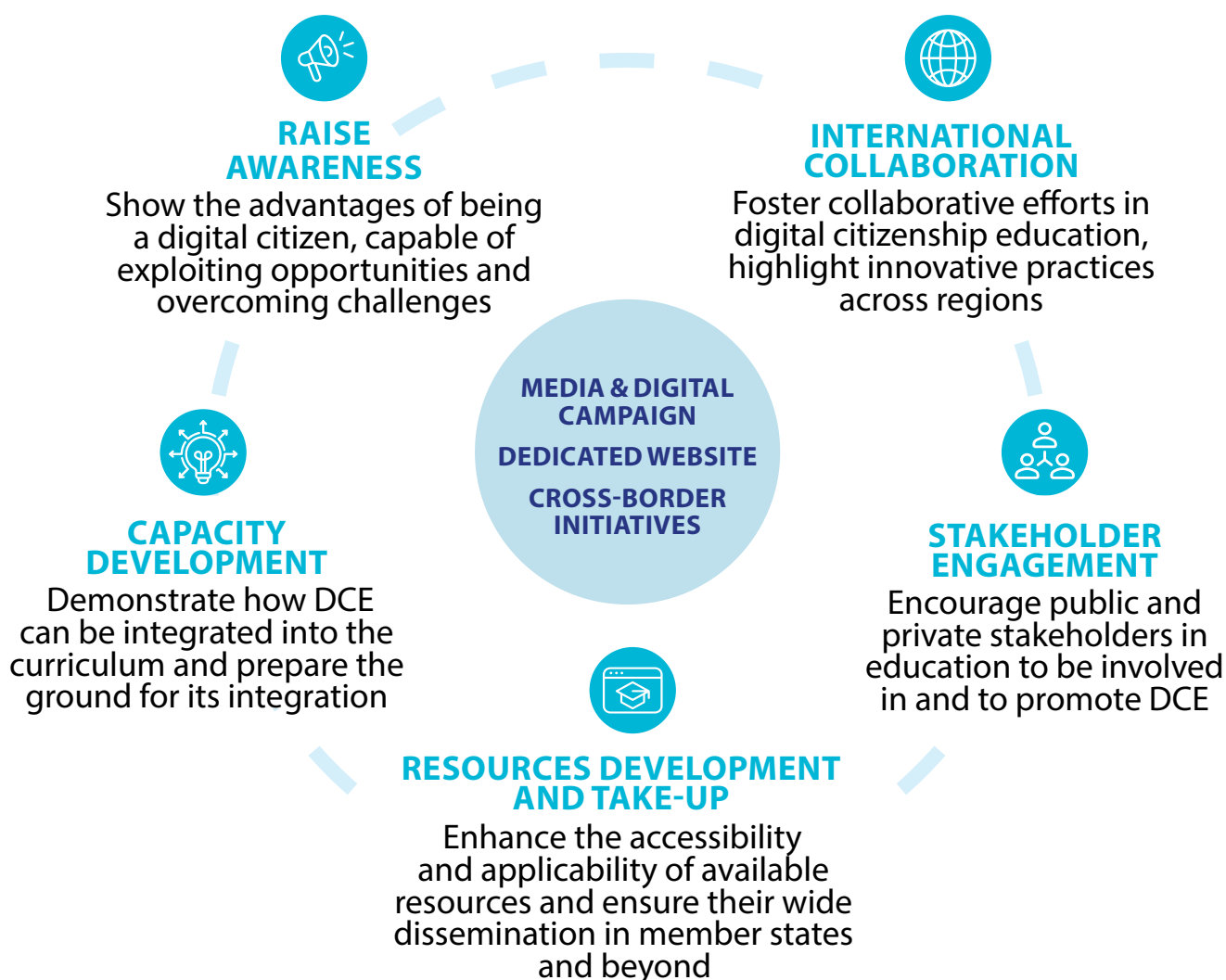Reach out to all DCE beneficiaries, especially the young

Provide a strategic platform for collaboration

Exchange sense-making practices

Define a road map for the future of DCE

Ensure DCE resilience in the digital landscape

MAIN ACTIVITIES AND MEANS FOR SUCCESS

RAISE AWARENESS
Show the advantages of being a digital citizen, capable of exploiting opportunities and overcoming challenges

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION
Foster collaborative efforts in digital citizenship education, highlight innovative practices across regions

MEDIA & DIGITAL CAMPAIGN

DEDICATED WEBSITE

CROSS-BORDER INITIATIVES

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
Demonstrate how DCE can be integrated into the curriculum and prepare the ground for its integration

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT
Encourage public and private stakeholders in education to be involved in and to promote DCE

RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND TAKE-UP
Enhance the accessibility and applicability of available resources and ensure their wide dissemination in member states and beyond

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WORK PLAN

PREPARATORY PHASE (2024)

- Campaign Steering Committee and National Committees set-up
- Campaign development
- Website and national websites development
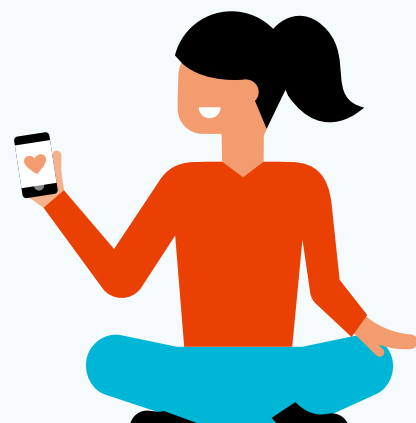- Development of resources and tools, adapted to national contexts

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE (2025)

- International events including launching and closing conferences
- Webinar and workshop series implementation
- National events organised by member states
- Media and digital campaign (TV, radio and social media)

EVALUATION PHASE (2026)

- National reports
- Collection of data and analysis
- Comprehensive Evaluation Report preparation
- Future initiatives planning based on achievements and lessons learned

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WHY SHOULD MEMBER STATES GET INVOLVED

AN ISSUE OF CONCERN FOR PUBLIC POLICY

ENHANCING CRITICAL UNDERSTANDING

To overcome the challenges inherent to digital environments

EMPOWERING CITIZENS

Lifelong learning opportunities to keep pace with today's rapidly evolving environment

SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY

Improved access to information and participation platforms

PROMOTING DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION FOR A MORE INCLUSIVE SOCIETY

Activities and events organised throughout the European Year will provide an **important platform for governments and policy makers** to:
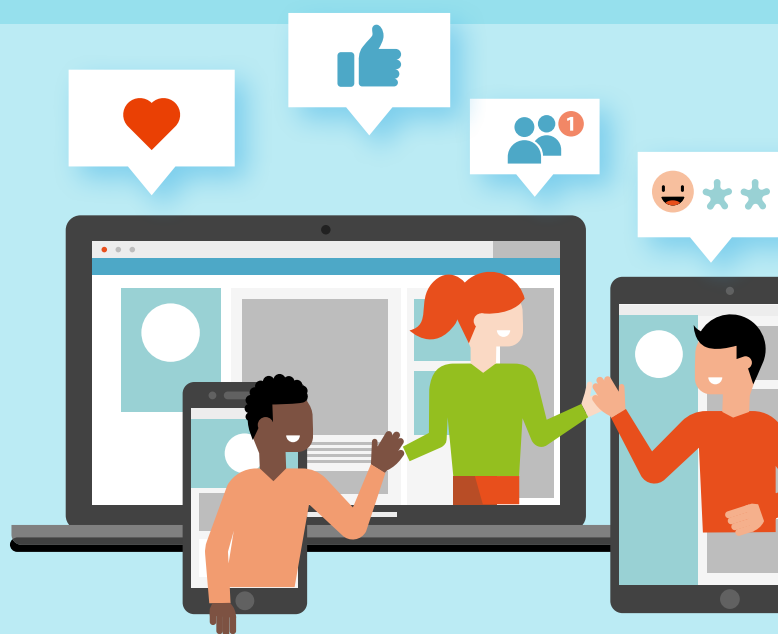
DEEPEN **PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING** OF DCE;

SHOWCASE THE ADVANTAGES OF **BEING INFORMED** DIGITAL CITIZENS;

HIGHLIGHT NEW WAYS FOR CITIZENS TO **CONTRIBUTE** POSITIVELY TO SOCIETY, BOTH ON- AND OFFLINE;

ENCOURAGE AN **OPENNESS TO OTHER CULTURES** AND AN APPRECIATION OF DIVERSITY;

UNDERLINE THE **BENEFITS** FOR CITIZENS IN LIVING TOGETHER IN AN INCLUSIVE DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY.

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HOW SHOULD MEMBER STATES GET INVOLVED

1 RAISE AWARENESS
Local and nationwide campaigns to inform and educate

ACTIVITIES, EVENTS AND INFORMATION OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE EUROPEAN YEAR

2 EVALUATE
Local and nationwide achievements to define future steps

5 BUILD CAPACITY
Workshops for educators, parents and carers

3 RESEARCH & DEVELOP
Contribute to ongoing initiatives in digital citizenship education

4 INFORM
Develop online and offline educational resources

JOINING FORCES FOR A MORE INCLUSIVE SOCIETY

Digital citizenship education is an issue of great importance to society, and your support is essential.

WE INVITE GOVERNMENTS TO:

- **communicate and promote** the European Year to citizens, at home and abroad;

- share your resources, **adapt and adopt** Council of Europe resources;

- **create a national activity plan** and join forces with the pan-European effort;

- host a national or international **conference**;

- develop a long-term **action plan** to integrate DCE fully into your education system;

- **put forward your own ideas** to make the European Year a resounding success.

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EUROPEAN YEAR OF DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION 2025

WHY SHOULD STAKEHOLDERS FROM CIVIL AND PRIVATE SECTORS GET INVOLVED

NURTURE DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND LITERACY THROUGHOUT ALL MEMBER STATES

ALIGNED MISSION

We believe that the Year has important goals and outcomes related to your vision and mission

IMPACTFUL OUTREACH

Your support will significantly extend the reach and effectiveness of the campaign, particularly in underserved communities

SHARED GOALS

Together we can work towards creating a more informed, active, safe and responsible digital society

WHAT WILL YOU GET

You will be invited to **high-profile conferences and events**

You will benefit from **networking opportunities** with other member states of the Council of Europe

The Council of Europe will highlight and **acknowledge your achievements**

EUROPEAN YEAR OF DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION 2025

TEAM UP WITH THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE TO FOSTER DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Digital citizenship is central to being a citizen in our digitally rich society, and therefore digital citizenship education is of great concern to us all. **Digital environments offer unprecedented opportunities for citizens** to meet, exchange ideas and participate actively in the life of their community.

YOU PLAY A PIVOTAL ROLE in promoting and in shaping the future of digital literacy and citizenship

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT to make the Year a success

1 Use DCE resources for your initiatives and disseminate them via your network and partners

2 Implement awareness-raising campaigns for parents and families

3 Organise educational initiatives in and out of schools in line with the Year's objectives

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THE CAMPAIGN THEMES

The 10 digital domains of Digital Citizenship Education will constitute the thematic framework for national campaigns.

BEING ONLINE

- Access and inclusion
- Learning and creativity
- Media and information literacy

WELL-BEING ONLINE

- Ethics and empathy
- Health and well-being
- e-presence and communications

RIGHTS ONLINE

- Active participation
- Rights and responsibilities
- Privacy and security
- Consumer awareness

UNDERSTANDING DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

FOCUS
Defining digital citizenship and its importance in a connected world

ADAPTATION
Tailoring the definition to reflect cultural and societal nuances in different pan-European countries

ETHICAL BEHAVIOUR ONLINE

FOCUS
Promoting understanding and practice of ethical behavior in the digital space

ADAPTATION
Discussing ethical dilemmas specific to various cultural and social backgrounds

ONLINE SAFETY AND SECURITY

FOCUS
Educating about safe internet practices, privacy settings and protection against cyberthreats

ADAPTATION
Addressing specific online risks prevalent in different regions

COMBATING DISINFORMATION

FOCUS
Strategies to identify and deal with disinformation and fake news

ADAPTATION
Using examples of misinformation prevalent in different countries to illustrate the issue

DIGITAL LITERACY AND CRITICAL THINKING

FOCUS
Enhancing skills to find, evaluate and create digital content responsibly

ADAPTATION
Incorporating local examples and scenarios to make the topic relevant and relatable

DIGITAL FOOTPRINT AND REPUTATION

FOCUS
Understanding the long-term impact of online activities on one's digital footprint

ADAPTATION
Discussing the implications of digital footprints in different social and professional contexts

CYBERBULLYING AND ONLINE HARASSMENT

FOCUS
Addressing the issue of cyberbullying and mechanisms for reporting and coping with it

ADAPTATION
Highlighting local laws, support systems and cultural aspects of dealing with online harassment

INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE DIGITAL COMMUNITIES

FOCUS
Promoting inclusivity and accessibility in digital spaces for all, including those with disabilities

ADAPTATION
Addressing specific accessibility challenges and solutions prevalent in various regions

DIGITAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FOCUS
Educating about the rights and responsibilities of individuals in the digital world

ADAPTATION
Relating these rights and responsibilities to the legal frameworks of different pan-European countries

DIGITAL PARTICIPATION AND DEMOCRACY

FOCUS
Encouraging active and informed digital participation in democratic processes

ADAPTATION
Discussing the role of digital media in democracy within the unique political context of each country

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DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION RESOURCES

RESOURCES FOR:

PARENTS   LEARNERS   EDUCATORS

The Council of Europe has created a versatile set of resources targeting policy makers, professionals in education, parents and children **around digital citizenship education** adhering to their needs and expectations: policy instruments and guidelines, leaflets, lesson plans, the Digi-Nauts video series, online courses, books and booklets.

LEAFLETS

6 **leaflets** applicable to various occasions and opportunities to exercise digital citizenship.

Available in 16 languages

LESSON PLANS

10 **lesson plans** to empower educators to teach digital citizenship in class on:
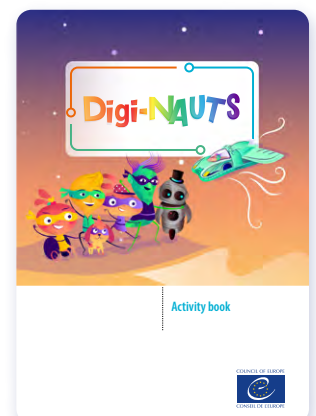
- collaboration;
- cyberbullying;
- ethical shopping;
- fake news;
- living in lockdown;
- new opportunities;
- shaping the future;
- solidarity;
- speaking out;
- surveillance.

DIGI-NAUTS

A video series accompanied with activities and exercises for young children – with the support of parents and educators - to think about what it means to be a digital citizen. The videos and the Activity book are available in several languages, with more to come.

Available in 10 languages

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION RESOURCES
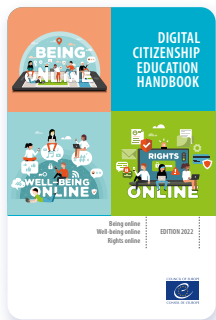
ONLINE COURSES

A series of online courses, developed in collaboration with the European Wergeland Centre on:

- what is DCE;
- DCE and cyberbullying;
- DCE and disinformation;
- access and inclusion;
- controversial issues online;
- DCE and hate speech online.

Available in English 🇬🇧

BOOKS & BOOKLETS

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION HANDBOOK
BEING
WELL-BEING ONLINE
RIGHTS ONLINE
Being online
Well-being online
Rights online   EDITION 2022

Providing ideas for educators in terms of learning goals and activities that will enable children to exercise digital citizenship in and out of the classroom.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION Trainers' Pack

Equipping educators with the skills and knowledge they need to help young learners become effective digital citizens.

Available in English 🇬🇧

Easy steps to help learners become Digital Citizens

Using your experience as an educator to guide children and young people on their path towards digital citizenship

Equipping educators with some easy steps to follow, to help learners master what it takes to act responsibly and respectfully online.
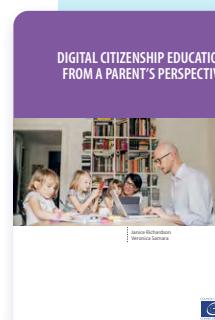
Available in EN & FR 🇬🇧 🇫🇷

Easy steps to help your child become a Digital Citizen

Using your experience as a citizen to guide your children on their path towards digital citizenship

Equipping parents with practical tips to guide their children on their path towards digital citizenship.

Available in 4 languages

EDUCATING FOR A VIDEO GAME CULTURE – A MAP FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Creating awareness of the complexity of video games, and of the potential risks and opportunities that come with it, while providing some useful strategies to help choose the right video games.

Available in English 🇬🇧

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION FROM A PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE
Janice Richardson
Veronica Samara

HIGHLIGHT ON:

mapping the needs and reflections of parents as they strive to ensure the well-being of their children and help them become competent digital citizens.

Available in English 🇬🇧

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