

# Irish letter

April 2010

Dear Parent

## **EU Kids Online survey**

Thank you very much for agreeing to participate in our survey. At the London School of Economics we lead this important project for the European Commission's Safer Internet Programme.

We are working with university researchers in 25 different countries, plus international expert advisors who make sure that the results will be useful for initiatives to make the internet safer for children. These advisors include Save the Children, European Schoolnet, and a European network for safety awareness-raising (Insafe). **In Ireland, we are working with Professor Brian O'Neill of the Dublin Institute of Technology.**

We have designed this survey for parents and children from all over Europe, and the findings will be important for advising schools, child welfare, youth workers and others who work to enable children to get the best out of the internet while minimising online risks.

For example, knowing what children do online can help teachers to devise cyberbullying programmes. It will also help governments in deciding whether parts of the internet should be better regulated. Youth workers and other professionals who work with children also need to know what to warn or advise children about. And our work will also provide guidance for parents, so they can learn ways to help and support their children when using the internet.

The survey also aims to get the risks faced by some children into perspective, by discovering the beneficial things children do on the internet and the great ways children are learning to use the internet sensibly and well. This is why our survey asks lots of questions - so that we can understand the different kinds of experiences that children of different ages and backgrounds may have in different countries.

Information about the researchers and advisors in each country is available on our website at [www.eukidsonline.net](http://www.eukidsonline.net). The findings will be reported by the European Commission on 21st October 2010 in Luxembourg. We will post the findings on our website on that date - please visit the website if you would like to know the results.

Again, many thanks for participating in this survey.

Yours sincerely,

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