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STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN SCHOOLS KA2 ACTION, ERASMUS+ PROGRAM THE VIRTUAL UNIVERSE WE WANT PROJECT NO: 2016-1-RO01-KA219-024515

PORTUGAL



Agrupamento de Escolas de Vila Real de Santo António Portugal



"The virtual universe we want"



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Since 2001 Portugal has been studying this problem among students aged 11 to 16.

We all know this issue concerns not only students but also parents and teachers.

In those early studies, 10% of the students defined themselves as bullies and 21,4% as victims, despite denying bullying as a real fact.

In 2010 we had the first case of suicide: a young boy of 12 threw himself into a river and drowned.

Everybody knows how important it is to surf the Net in search for information

But we also know the lack of security and the risks taken such as cyber bullying, paedophilia, pornography exploitation, violence and identity theft.



As a measure of prevention, it is important for students to have a good, close relationship with their parents. Don't forget that your teachers can help you, too.

Parents shouldn't just forbid or control accesses to the Net. Children and teens must be aware of the danger of using this resource and avoid posting personal data.

In the second advices are included in the Portuguese national programme for ICT since 2012.

More than having laws on cyber bullying, our country started with prevention at schools by the time children start having ICT lessons.

In Portugal we are also aware that cyber bullying begins early in a kid's life, from the first moment he or she begins to build a "social life".

Our first educational law stating that cyber bullying is a crime was created in 1999 (Law n.º 166).

Nowadays we apply the so-called "Student Status" or Law n.º 51 of 2012 to all students aged 12 to 16. They will not be sent to prison in any case, but they can be sent to special institutions or can be sentenced to pay for the damage (their parents, better said).



From 2010 till nowadays the government is trying to approve a law that would send to prison teens found guilty aged 16 or more.

Above 18 they are already foreseen in our Penal Code and treated as adults.

At present our group of schools - as well as many Portuguese schools - is part of a programme called "Segura Net" (Safe Net) which will soon cover the whole country, under our police department supervison.

Students are given information and advice about cyber bullying, how to deal and what to do to prevent cybercrimes.

Sea

This is an issue we cannot end here but we would like to add that, a few months ago, all the Portuguese schools were informed that pictures and films can no longer display or show any of their student's features.

It's a question of respecting their (and our) privacy.



Thank you very much for your attention.

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