



Principles of the EU Kids Online Network

EU Kids Online is a multinational research network that seeks to enhance knowledge of European children's online opportunities, risks and safety. The network employs multiple methods to map children's and parents' experiences of the internet and seeks to build a comprehensive evidence base to inform national, European and international policies to advance children's rights in relation to the digital environment.

We take a children's rights perspective, in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and General comment No. 25 on Children's rights in relation to the digital environment. This means taking a holistic approach to children's digital that values and seeks to enhance child participation, protection, privacy, provision, dignity and voice.

The network is widely recognised for its contribution to the European 'Better Internet for Kids' ecosystem. This contribution relies on the network's expertise and independent voice, its cross-nationally comparative insights, and its capacity for high-quality evidence generation with and for children and young people.

Our European researchers endorse the following principles in all our work:

1. High quality science

We conduct scientific research using rigorous and transparent methodologies appropriate to the research task, including to enable cross-country comparisons.

2. Ethical

We follow the highest standard of ethical principles and practices in research with children and young people.

3. Balanced analysis

We seek to be informed and balanced in our approach, and to critique overly optimistic, alarmist, moralistic or reductive accounts of technology's impacts on children.

4. Evidence based policy

We actively seek to expand and deepen academic, policymaker and public understanding of children's digital lives by promoting relevant and high-quality research, also noting research weaknesses and gaps as appropriate.

5. Open

We disseminate our findings fairly and honestly, using open-access and/or peer-reviewed outlets wherever possible.

6. Independence and transparency

We engage with multiple stakeholders, including government, policymakers, industry and civil society, sustaining an independent approach and avoiding conflicts of interest.

7. Integrity

We conduct all our research and collaborations with integrity, and to be transparent about our sources of funding.