



Internet Safety Presentations for Children

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Social Netiquette: Internet Safety for Children

About me: *I graduated from UCD with a Commerce Degree specialising in Marketing and decided to pursue a career in Finance. However, after 6 years working in Davy stockbrokers and Ulster Bank Wealth Management, I decided that a role in a more creative industry was for me and I began working as a digital marketing consultant. Whilst working in this area, I noticed that there was a serious need for someone to speak to children about their Internet safety and show them how to avoid the many dangers online. I set up Social Netiquette and began giving presentations on Internet safety to schools. The presentations have been very well received and all feedback from teachers and parents has been extremely positive.*

In a recent presentation I gave, I discovered that the majority of children in 4th, 5th and 6th class were spending more than 2 hours online each day. It is clear that they have little understanding of the dangers that may arise as a result of their online activity. Issues such as cyber bullying are also prevalent in Irish schools and it is my aim to address these issues and ensure that children know how to handle anything the Internet throws at them.

Primary School Presentation Overview

Your Internet Usage: This is an ice-breaker at the beginning of the presentation, where I speak to the children about their own internet usage, so that I can get an understanding of what they are doing online, which websites they use, how much time they spend online etc.

“Embarrassment Management”: I talk about how photos, videos and comments posted online today, can affect their life in the future, career, personal life, etc. I show them real-life examples of adults who have lost their jobs because of irresponsible behaviour online. I also try and make my examples more relevant to them and show them how this could even affect their search for part-time jobs. I use examples from my own online activity, to show them how little control we all have over the information posted online.

Keeping Safe Online: I explain to them how to secure their privacy settings on their social networking accounts and also focus on the importance of not sharing personal information online (full address, name, date of birth, parent’s occupations etc). The two most important aspects of keeping safe online are to ensure they understand that people may not be who they say they are online and also to **never** to meet up with anyone who has contacted them online. Again, this segment is interspersed with real-life examples, so they understand that these things are happening to real people.

Cyber Bullying: I define cyber bullying and list a wide range of examples. This seems to be an issue in schools whereby children think their actions online are not construed as cyber bullying, because “it’s only a joke”. I also talk to them about what they should do if they or one of their friends is being cyber bullied. This topic should be viewed as a jumping off point for further discussion by the teachers with the class.

Plagiarism: This was added at the request of a teacher, as she has found children are increasingly confused as to the difference between researching online and plagiarism. This is a huge problem in secondary schools and universities, so it’s important the children are taught that this wrong from a young age.

The Amazing Internet: I end on a positive note and talk to them about the good side of the Internet. Education, Entertainment, Communication and Careers are some of the positives I discuss.

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Supporting Material: The children will be given a hand-out at the end of the presentation, which will summarise the main points. I will also generate some worksheets for the teachers, that can be used as talking points after my presentations.

Social Netiquette: Charging Structure

My charging structure will vary, depending on the amount of presentations I am giving to the school. I generally present to each class year as a whole, so schools will merge all classes together for my presentation. I prefer to speak to each class year separately, as the content changes according to the age of the children I am speaking to.

Generally, the presentations are given to 4th, 5th and 6th class. However, should a principal feel that a younger class are spending a large amount of time online, this can be arranged and the presentations will be tailored accordingly.

The entire presentation, including questions and answers, lasts approximately 40-60 minutes.

School Presentations

1x Presentation: €150

2x Presentations: €125 per presentation

Each additional presentation: €100

Presentation to Parents

Presentation to parents only (No school presentation first): €150

Presentation to parents (Same day as school presentation): €100

All fees listed relate to schools in the Dublin area. Travel costs will apply for rural schools.

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