Children’s and young people’s appeal to adults for a better online culture

This petition is based on thousands of debates and discussions with children and young people on the challenges and opportunities of online and digital everyday life in various events in Finland during 2017. These discussions and notes have been made by dozens of employees and volunteers from Telia and Save the Children.

Protect my data
I trust that you respect my knowledge, my secrets and my pictures, and you do not share them without my permission.

Be a role model
We use the same digital channels as adults. We see and learn how and what you are doing online. Ignorance and hate speech grasps.

Help safeguard my data protection
While I can use the technology effortlessly, it is not easy to understand all the consequences of all clicks.

Understand digital communality
The most important thing for me is my friends. What might look for you like a cell phone hanging around in my eyes is for me to maintain social relationships, relax and have fun.

Let me find my strength
Prohibitions and blockings do not help me to develop my digital skills. Only by doing, I’m able to learn. Ask me what I learned from the internet and what I want to learn next.

Help me find my own boundaries
It's hard to say no online when you do not see your counterpart. It's easy to say yes to a variety of temptations. I need adult support for the development of my skills to draw boundaries.

Take on my digital enthusiasm
Do not neglect what I do online. Be interested in my digital skills, hobbies, and if I ask, help me develop them.

Help identify the injustices
I do not always recognize when something nasty happens. Help me to identify what is right and what is wrong and to do it right.

Be present in my digital life
It is not pleasant that my media use is always spoken about in a negative tone. Discuss about media in an everyday manner and without criticism. I appreciate when I’m asked for my ideas about online usage.

Protect my rest time
Digital services have been built to be tempting and you may easy use more time than you realize online. Make sure I rest enough and learn to recognize when I need a break from digital world.

Children want a safer and better digital everyday life. Children have the right to have it. Our task as adults is to ensure that the right to a better life in a digital society is fulfilled.