

Notes for Teachers.

# Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year. It aims to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people and to inspire a national discussion about using technology **responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively**.

The Directorate for Learning and Assessment Programmes, together with Tech. Mt, Agenzija Appoġġ, the Office of the Commissioner for Children and the Cyber Crime Unit within the Malta Police Force, who form part of the **BeSmartOnline!** initiative join in the celebrations to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

The day offers the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. It calls upon young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers, and wider community, to join together in helping to create a better internet. This year Safer Internet Day will be celebrated on the **9th of February** however, activities will be organised throughout the whole week.

be SMART  
**ONLINE!**



# Lesson Plan - Digital footprint

## Target Audience

Students aged 13-14  
(Year 9)

## Keywords

Privacy, Reputation, Responsibility, Risks,  
Consequences

## Resources

Video – Safer Internet Day - <https://www.besmartonline.org.mt/Videos/Safer%20Internet%20Day%20Final%20Version.mp4>

Video – Digital Footprint - [https://www.besmartonline.org.mt/Videos/Digital%20Footprint\\_Final.mp4](https://www.besmartonline.org.mt/Videos/Digital%20Footprint_Final.mp4)

PSCD reflective workbook

## Time

80 minutes | (2 lessons)

## Learning Outcomes

- I can describe what is meant by digital footprint.
- I can discuss how to manage my digital footprint.
- I can explain how I can start developing a positive digital footprint for future life, study and work.
- I can talk about the risks associated with giving out personal information.

## Success Criteria

1. I can explain why everyone has a digital footprint.
2. I can list 2 or 3 things that make a negative or positive digital footprint.
3. I can talk about how my performance online can effect my digital footprint.
4. I can list ways on how to protect my privacy online.

## Introduction - Safer Internet Day

### Instructions:

Show the clip on SAFER INTERNET DAY to the students.

### Discuss:

Why is the internet important in our lives?

What is the internet being used for?

Why does the world celebrate safer internet day every year?

## Activity 1

### Group Work - Part A

#### Instructions:

1. Introduce the shared learning outcome of the lesson
2. Divide the class into groups of three or four.
3. Each group has to discuss the following questions
  - What is a digital footprint?
  - Is it a negative or a positive thing to have? Why?
  - Does everyone have a digital footprint?

#### Discuss and process.

#### Possible answers

What is a digital footprint? A digital footprint is the information we leave behind from everything we do online.

Is it a negative or a positive thing to have? Why? It can be a positive or negative thing, depending on how we use the internet.

Does everyone have a digital footprint? Everyone who uses the internet has a digital footprint.

## Group Work - Part B

### Instructions:

Now show the video to the students 'The digital footprint'.

<https://youtu.be/kHYkWtI7004>

Ask them if they want to add anything to their answers.

### Discuss and process.

During processing remind students that they do not need to log onto websites, since they are automatically connected from everyone.

Also keep in mind internet of things: cars connected with gps, fitbits etc all these devices are constantly connected online. They are leaving a digital footprint all the time even without being conscious.

## Activity 2 - Group Work

### Instructions:

Give each group of students the questions prepared beforehand. Inform them that they are going to see a locally produced clip related to digital footprint. After viewing the clip they have to discuss the questions in their groups and one of the them will take notes. The group will present their answers to the whole class.

Play the Besmartonline video on digital footprint.

## Activity 2 - Group Work

### Questions for students.

- How will you express yourself?
- How will you protect your privacy?
- How will you respect other people's privacy?
- If you Googled your name or username(s) what do you think you would find?
- What is a negative and what is a positive digital footprint?
- Would you be proud to have your teachers/parents/friends look at everything in your digital footprint? Why? Why not?

### Concluding activity

Get the class together and ask each group to report back on the discussions. To respect students' privacy, rapporteurs should not name who said what but should report how the discussion developed and what the group as a whole talked about. Allow at least 10 minutes for the activity.

These are some possible answers, but accept any answer that is well justified and well expressed.

- How will you express yourself? I will express myself with care and remember that anything I do online is permanent and public. Even a private message should be considered public because it is so easy to copy and pass on.

- How will you protect your privacy? I won't post any information that can be used against me e.g., embarrassing or compromising photos, talking negatively about people or sharing secrets online. I won't share private information such as the year I was born, my address, my telephone number. I will be careful about the language I use. I won't get into heated arguments because I will never be able to take anything back.
- How will you respect other people's privacy? I will ask them before I tag or share anything about them online.
- What is a negative and what is a positive digital footprint? A negative footprint includes all the potentially negative content that I have created or shared, e.g. embarrassing or compromising photos, rude or aggressive language. It can also be negative content websites I have visited, e.g. websites displaying inappropriate, hateful or violent content. A positive footprint includes content that showcases my potential and accomplishments. This can be examples of my work, pictures or videos that show I can work as part of a team and comments that show I am a respectful and kind person. There are digital footprints that **aren't** negative or positive, but give a lot of info about yourself...**which might not have an impact immediately, but later on.**
- If you Googled your name or username(s) what do you think you would find? Students' own answers.
- Would you be proud to have your teachers/parents/friends look at everything in your digital footprint?  
Why? Why not? Students' own answer.

**NOTA BENE** - This lesson can be delivered in conjunction with the material already found in the PSCD reflective workbook for year 9.