

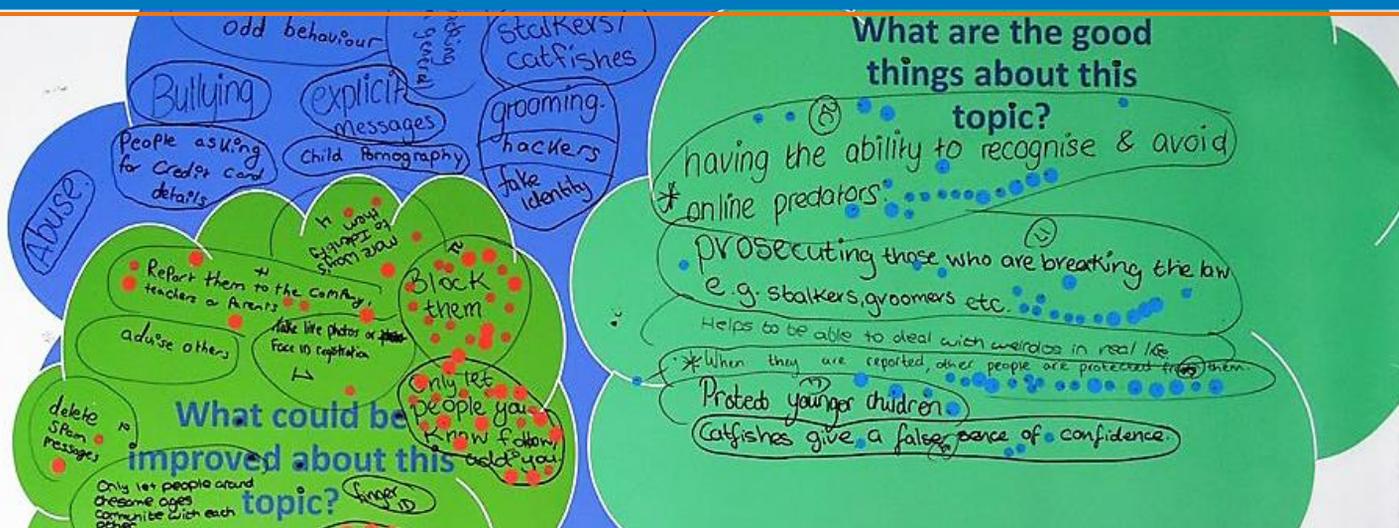


2022 WEBINAR SERIES

DIGITAL VOICES

Progressing children's right to be heard through social and digital media

Professor Emeritus Brian O'Neill,
Technological University Dublin



Wednesday 04 May 2022

1:00 – 2:00 pm (Irish Time)

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DIGITAL VOICES: Progressing children's right to be heard through social and digital media

Digital Voices is a research project carried out by TU Dublin on behalf of the Ombudsman for Children's Office (OCO) in 2020/21. The brief was to examine how social and digital media might be mobilised to support and promote children's right to be heard in the context of public decision-making. Drawing on a review of the academic literature as well as current practices, the research team engaged widely with children and young people (9-17 years) and professional stakeholders in putting forward a framework for promoting digital as a mode of children's participation in public decision-making. Against a background of renewed attention to children's rights in the digital environment, this webinar will reflect on the report's conclusions and recommendations and look to the policy and practical challenges and some of the promising trends of participatory practice in this field.



Brian O'Neill, PhD is emeritus Professor at TU Dublin and previously Head of the School of Media and Director of Research, Enterprise & Innovation at the university. He is a media education expert with research interests in media literacy, policy for the digital environment and internet governance. Brian is a member of the Council of Europe's Expert Group on [Digital Citizenship Education](#), and leads policy engagement for the [CO:RE](#) (Children Online: Research and

Evidence) platform funded under Horizon 2020. He also coordinates, jointly with the Leibniz Institute for Media Research - Hans Bredow Institut, [the BIK Policy Map](#) project for the European Commission. He is a Deputy Chair of Ireland's [National Advisory Council for Online Safety](#) (NACOS) and previously chaired the Irish government's task force on Internet Content Governance. He is currently co-chair of the Steering Group for [Media Literacy Ireland](#), a multi-stakeholder initiative supported by the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland.

The graphic overleaf shows the output from a Workshop Placemat Exercise, a participatory activity used to capture children's perspectives in the "Digital Voices" research.

O'Neill, B., Dinh, T., & Lalor, K. (2021). *Digital Voices: Progressing Children's Right to be Heard Through Social and Digital Media*. Office of the Children's Ombudsman (p. 47).