

# European Schoolnet Annual Report 2023

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Short version

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# Foreword

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2023 was impacted by the unprecedented rise of generative artificial intelligence. This phenomenon presented a turning point for education with implications for all digitally processed data for learning and assessment.

Within the Agile EDU project, European Schoolnet and its network of ministries of education joined forces across countries to share their experiences and build up new evidence on data use in education. Their objective is to support policymakers in taking informed policy decisions, help schools and educators in embracing change, and raise awareness of the impact of data amongst students, parents, businesses and the entire school community.

In the framework of the European Year of Skills, our organisation played a leading role in supporting governments, schools, teachers and learners to embrace change in a responsible and inclusive way:

- We continued to stimulate the **policy exchange** among our network of ministries of education and invited other key players from all sectors to discuss the challenges and opportunities in empowering schools with digital skills.
- Our **participation in key European projects** contributed to the transformation of Europe's education. In collaboration with the European Commission and other partners, in 2023, European Schoolnet mobilised strong European networks such as Better Internet for Kids, EU Code Week, the Digital Skills and Jobs Platform, the European School Education Platform, ContinueUP and the Agile EDU community to significantly contribute to the development of digital skills for European schools, teachers and students.
- **Digital citizenship** is an increasingly important knowledge domain for pupils, teachers and parents or carers, as online technologies play a growing role in the lives of children and young people. With new political priorities taking shape at European level, children's rights in a digital world continue to feature prominently on the European Commission's agenda.

Better Internet for Kids has become a key strategic activity line for European Schoolnet. This is alongside a range of other new and ongoing projects that cover the various facets of children and young people's online media experiences and the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to navigate the digital media landscape actively, critically and creatively. At the same time, these projects look at the beneficial role teachers and educators can play within this context.

- The Digital Decade has set a target of 20 million highly skilled IT professionals by 2030. To meet this target, it is important to **encourage young students to opt for STEM studies** and be aware of new jobs and opportunities. Under the umbrella of Scientix, the community for science education in Europe, our organisation develops projects that contribute to meeting the challenges linked to the attractiveness of STEM studies and STEM jobs at secondary education level. These projects

also help all students understand the importance of STEM in our daily lives even if they decide not to pursue STEM studies.

- European Schoolnet continued to **support schools to embrace new teaching and learning** models, training more than 16 000 teachers, through the European Schoolnet Academy online courses. At the same time, we engaged with hundreds of educators, decision-makers and more than 30 industry representatives in the Future Classroom Lab in Brussels, giving more than three million citizens the chance to participate in the EU Code week initiative.

Finally, I warmly invite you to learn more about European Schoolnet's activities in our [2023 Annual Report](#). I hope you enjoy reading it!



**Marc Durando**, European Schoolnet Executive Director

# Our impact

## 2023 in numbers

### 2023 in numbers

#### Our network

- 34** MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION
- 42** INDUSTRY PARTNERS
- 23** AMBASSADORS
- 200** INNOVATIVE LEARNING LABS

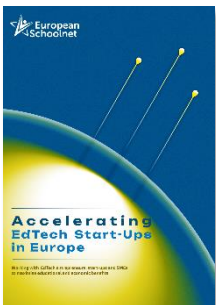
#### Online community

- 124k** WEB USERS
- 25k** NEWSLETTERS SUBSCRIBERS
- 29k** FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS
- 28.5k** X (TWITTER) FOLLOWERS
- 10.4k** LINKEDIN FOLLOWERS
- 5.75k** YOUTUBE FOLLOWERS

#### Key outputs

- 65** EVENTS
- 55** PROJECTS
- 12** PUBLICATIONS
- 15** MAJOR CONFERENCES
- 10** MOOCS
- 328** ITEMS TRANSLATED
- 13k** REGISTRATIONS
- 16k** REGISTRATIONS
- 36** LANGUAGES
- 189** VIDEOS
- 300k** VIEWS

## Key publications



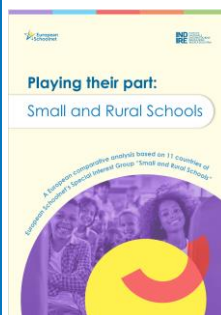
[Accelerating EdTech Start-Ups in Europe](#)



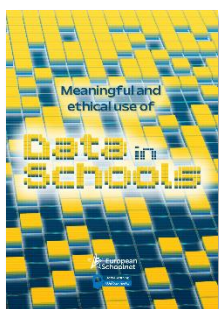
[Playing their part: Small and Rural Schools - Research Report](#)



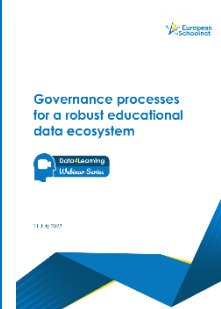
[Rural Schools under Focus. Case Studies on innovative practices](#)



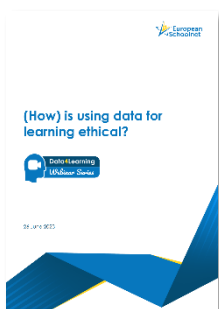
[Playing their part: Small and Rural Schools - Executive Summary](#)



[Meaningful and Ethical Use of Data in Education](#)



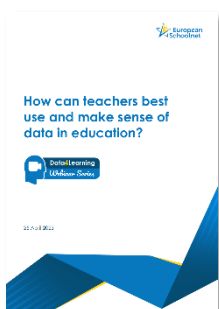
[Data4Learning: Governance processes for a robust educational data ecosystem](#)



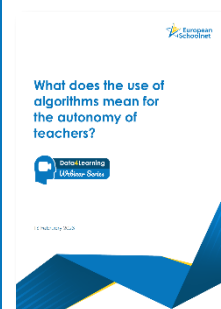
[Data4Learning: \(How\) is using data for learning ethical?](#)



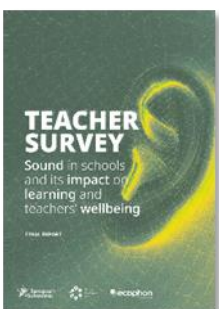
[Data4Learning: ChatGPT and the role of AI in assessment](#)



[Data4Learning: How can teachers best use and make sense of data in education?](#)



[Data4Learning: What does the use of algorithms mean for the autonomy of teachers?](#)



[Teacher Survey Final Report: Sound in schools and its impact on learning and teachers' wellbeing](#)



[Perspective Paper: Wellbeing in a digital world](#)

Visit our [Insights page](#) to find out all our publications.

## Courses at the European Schoolnet Academy 2023

Course	Registered	Started	Finished	Engagement rate [1]	Completion rate [2]	Start and End	Project
<a href="#">Make it Open Schooling</a>	1315	1018	485	77%	48%	09-Jan to 15-Feb	MAKE IT OPEN
<a href="#">Exploring Nature-Based Solution in Your Classroom - MOOC rerun</a>	1905	1347	572	71%	42%	13-Feb to 22-Mar	NBS_EDUWORLD
<a href="#">Digital Education with Cultural Heritage 2023 (EN)</a>	969	605	222	62%	37%	27-Feb to 12-Apr	EUROPEANA
<a href="#">Digital Education with Cultural Heritage 2023 (RO)</a>	548	330	145	60%	44%	24-Apr to 07-June	EUROPEANA
<a href="#">Unlocking the power of AI</a>	2523	1937	951	77%	49%	13-Mar to 19-Apr	EU CODE WEEK
<a href="#">Games in Schools</a>	1911	1273	402	67%	32%	17-Apr to 31-May	GAMES IN SCHOOLS
<a href="#">Time to seed the future</a>	475	297	148	63%	50%	03-Apr to 10-May	TIME
<a href="#">Terra Mission MOOC Rerun: Teaching Sustainability for Action</a>	2392	1451	436	61%	30%	11-Sep to 18-Oct	LIFE TERRA
<a href="#">Accelerate Your Teaching MOOC</a>	2211	1293	314	58%	24%	16-Oct to 22-Nov	AT
<a href="#">Navigating Innovative Technologies Across the Curriculum</a>	1816	1321	666	73%	50%	09-Oct to 15-Nov	EU CODE WEEK
<b>Total (not unique)</b>	<b>16065</b>	<b>10872</b>	<b>4341</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>41%</b>		

[1] Engagement rate = participants that started the course divided by the number of registrations

[2] Completion rate = participants that finished the course divided by the number of participants that started

## School Innovation Forum 2023

### SCHOOL INNOVATION FORUM

The 2023 edition of the School Innovation Forum was held on 6 and 7 June in Brussels, with the theme of '**Innovating in times of transformation**'. The event was an opportunity to discuss present challenges and future opportunities that technology, and in particular artificial intelligence (AI), brings to K12 education in Europe. With more than 130 participants, the forum generated insightful observations and initiatives from European and national policymakers, EdTech industry partners, education researchers and members of academia.

In his opening speech, European Schoolnet's executive director, Marc Durando, highlighted the organisation's firm commitment to reinforce the mission of the Future Classroom Lab initiative, offering all education stakeholders a space to test new approaches for teaching and learning and a community to discuss these new approaches with. He also launched the [European Schoolnet's 'Accelerating EdTech Start-Ups in Europe'](#) report and announced the organisation's participation in [EmpowerED](#), an EU-funded project designed to create a pan-European network for exchanges between European EdTech initiatives, support organisations, practitioners and policymakers.

Discover the takeaways of the forum in [this article](#) and watch our [wrap-up video](#).



## EMINENT 2023

In a fast-evolving education landscape, boosted by the digital revolution, European Schoolnet called in education experts from all over Europe to bring critical thinking and share initiatives on '**empowering schools with Digital Skills**'.

Held on 5 and 6 December 2023 in Rome, in collaboration with **INDIRE** and the **Ministry of Education of Italy**, the European Schoolnet annual conference, EMINENT 2023, brought together over 160 experts in education and innovation from over 30 countries. The conference stressed the need for a collective effort to make the digital transformation of education a success. European policymakers, teachers, academia and industry professionals were called upon to unite in shaping a digital future for schools.

The annual conference facilitated the exchange of country initiatives to support and sustain change at school level, with representatives from different European ministries of education, including Italy, Flanders, Ireland, Portugal and Spain. Two roundtables unveiled key strategies for navigating the digital era. The first one advocated for integrating digital skills into curricula, focusing on basic competences, critical thinking and reshaping learning environments. The second roundtable focused on the evolving role of teachers and the importance of more effective and sustainable continued professional development programmes, fostering synergies between initial teacher education and professional development for in-service teachers.

Contributing with inspiring insights, **Divina Frau-Meigs, Professor at the Université Sorbonne Nouvelle** and **Mark West, Education Specialist at UNESCO**, delved into the transformative impact of artificial intelligence (AI) in education. They emphasised the critical need for thorough training to gradually integrate AI literacy into existing educational structures and analyse why schools are striving to empower students with digital skills. Strengthening traditional literacy not only establishes the foundation for effective digital literacy, but also highlights the long-term impact of foundational skills in an ever-evolving technological landscape.

Find out more [about the conference](#) and [watch the recordings](#).



# Our focus areas

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Our core activities in 2023 focused on testing, sharing evidence, and spreading innovation, looking at **five thematic areas**:

- 1) Evidence for Innovation
- 2) Digital Citizenship
- 3) STEM Education
- 4) New Teaching & Learning Models
- 5) School Networking



Evidence for  
innovation



Digital  
citizenship



STEM  
education



New teaching &  
learning models



School  
networking

# Evidence for innovation



## Evidence for innovation



**5** WEBINARS  
**5** SUMMARY REPORTS  
**1** FINAL REPORT



**Perspective**  
FROM RESEARCH TO POLICY ACTION  
**2** VOLUMES



**13K** WEB VIEWS  
**570** SUBSCRIBERS



**2.2K** WEB VIEWS  
**2.3K** WEB VIEWS

### SRSP Flanders

IMPLEMENTING AN EFFECTIVE INDUCTION SYSTEM FOR NOVICE TEACHERS IN FLANDERS



SCHOOL LEADER GUIDELINES



SCHOOL TEAM GUIDELINES



MENTOR GUIDELINES



BEGINNING TEACHER GUIDELINES



assess@learning

OUTCOMES:



OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE TOOLKIT



LITERATURE REVIEW



SOCIAL IMPACT OF DFA ON STUDENTS REPORT



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE POLICY EXPERIMENTATION



TECHNICAL EVALUATION REPORT

## Why is evidence for innovation important?

Digital education has become more important across all education systems since the COVID-19 health crisis. Large initiatives, like the [Digital Education Action Plan](#) of the European Commission and its [Recovery and Resilience Facility](#), have been a catalyst for significant policy initiatives to be taken in all countries.

The need for solid evidence to support those policy initiatives, and teaching practice in schools on a broad set of digital education topics, has led European Schoolnet to enlarge and deepen its knowledge base. The sudden and omnipresent attention dedicated to artificial intelligence, its use and its impact on education has made the demand for grounded evidence even more pressing and complex. Increased attention to inclusion, ethical issues and responsible use of technology in digital learning environments also became high on the agenda.

## Our work

As new technologies further entrench themselves within and across educational practices, it is essential to further contribute to, build upon and update the current evidence base. In 2023, European Schoolnet worked in the following areas of digital education:

1. The use of data in education,
2. Teachers' professional development,
3. Well-being in a digital world,
4. Education system change,
5. Harnessing the potential of digital education technology.

## Data use in education

In the ever-evolving discourse on the purpose and role of education, the debate about the use of digitally processed data has been growing in the last few years. In an effort to contribute to this discussion, European Schoolnet launched a series of webinars titled [Data4Learning](#), inviting key experts and professionals from education authorities and academic institutions to exchange, reflect and share their insights over six episodes from October 2022 to June 2023.

These episodes delved into the complexities and potential of the increasing production of data in education and covered topics about the platformisation of education, the use of algorithms and the impact on teachers' autonomy, the teachers' sensemaking of data use in education, generative artificial intelligence (AI) and assessment, ethics, and governance of data ecosystems. In total, six webinar summaries were individually published over the course of the duration of the series and were also presented in the final [Meaningful and Ethical Use of Data in Education](#) publication.

At the same time, [Agile EDU](#), a three-year Erasmus+ funded project, kicked off in January 2023 to identify the key success factors for supporting the implementation, at scale, of digital education ecosystems involved in defining, collecting and using data about student learning. In its first year, the project investigated topics related to datafication, such as the ownership of data collected in schools, platformisation of schools by global technology companies, fragmented use of data analytics and the growing influence of generative artificial intelligence.

## Teachers' professional development

The three-year [ContinueUP](#) project, funded by Erasmus+, is paving the way for the continuous professional development of teachers across Europe. By bridging the gap between ITE and CPD, fostering collaboration among education providers and investing in teachers' professional growth, the project enriches the lives of both teachers and students and cultivates a thriving educational ecosystem that fosters innovation, resilience and progress. As a collaborative network, 'ContinueUP' is empowering European teachers to create a brighter and more enlightened future for generations to come. The project will establish a network of initial teacher education (ITE) and continuous professional development (CPD) providers that will co-construct and deliver a training programme across the continuum of ITE and CPD, addressing teachers' use of digital tools for professional engagement. Furthermore, the project will pilot processes that can lead to the formal recognition of MOOCs, thereby gaining valuable insights into how to address barriers for the uptake of innovative online learning formats by teachers.

Since 2023, European Schoolnet has also been a partner of the [21st-Century European Teachers](#) Erasmus+ project, whose objective is to gain an insight into how European teachers can approach and develop teaching in emerging subject areas such as technological empowerment, sustainable learning, entrepreneurship and playful learning. More specifically, the project aims to establish a strong network of pre- and in-service teachers as a driver for mobility during study visits and co-organised teaching events; designing, developing and trying out joint learning modules for pre- and in-service teachers; providing recommendations for the 21st-Century European Teacher Curriculum around the four subject areas through learning modules, and policy recommendations.

### Wellbeing in a digital world



As part of its Perspective series, in 2023, European Schoolnet published a paper on [Wellbeing in a digital world](#) to serve as a practical guide for educators aiming to enhance student wellbeing in schools. It focuses on implementing creative teaching methods, incorporating digital tools and addressing emotional and skill development.

### Case study: education system change

To support further policy learning within European Schoolnet, beyond European cooperation through projects and thematic working groups, a new series of **case study reports about education system change and reforms** was launched in 2023. The first case study concerns the digital education transition plan in Portugal. Its three pillars – equipment and infrastructure, teacher training and school strategies, and digital learning resources – are presented and discussed to identify the cognitive and social processes that strengthen the connection between policy learning and policy change.

### Harnessing the potential of digital education technology

European Schoolnet is undertaking a study funded by the EIB that focuses on analysing public investment trends in digital education technologies, gaining a deeper and comparative understanding of how new technologies enter and change school practice, estimating the costs for public authorities for implementing new technologies in schools, and building evidence on what works by estimating the impact of selected new technologies on student outcomes.

## Projects

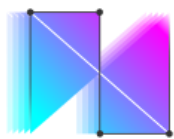


**Agile  
EDU**

The landscape of datafication and digital education is constantly changing. The [AgileEDU](#) project takes an iterative, agile approach in its outputs and activities. Case studies and learning stories, expert validation workshops, dialogue labs between all stakeholders and surveys of policy initiatives – all part of an iterative and agile process – are the main building blocks of the project. The outcomes will be increased expertise through the analysis of existing practices and a professional community for data about student learning.



[ContinueUP](#) supports the effective continued development of European teachers throughout their entire career with the aim to boost the attractiveness of the teaching profession.



**21<sup>st</sup> century  
European  
Teachers**

The overall objective of the [21st-Century European Teachers](#) project (Teacher Academy project XXI-TEACH-EU), funded by the Erasmus+ programme, is to gain insight into how European teachers can approach and develop teaching in emerging subject areas.

## Resources

European Schoolnet runs large-scale policy experimentations, which use rigorous research methods to develop innovative educational tools and resources that are then tested to achieve results that can be effectively mainstreamed. The policy experimentations conducted in 2023 include:

- [Guiding early-career teachers in the profession](#). Thanks to the outputs of the European SRSP Flanders on 'Implementing an effective induction system for novice teachers' project, resources were developed to help schools in Flanders to welcome, motivate and guide early-career teachers in their profession.
- [Assess@Learning systemic toolkit](#) to inspire and support the use of digital formative assessment (DFA) at lower secondary education level in schools, with a set of awareness-raising and practical support resources for teachers, students, headteachers, parents and policymakers.

# Digital citizenship



## Digital citizenship



**94k+**  
WEB VISITORS  
ON SID

**563k+**  
WEB VISITORS  
THROUGHOUT THE  
CAMPAIGN

**1k**  
NEW FOLLOWERS  
ON X (TWITTER)

**7.9k**  
NEW LIKES ON  
FACEBOOK

**95k+**  
VIDEO  
SPOT VIEWS



**150+**  
ONSITE  
PARTICIPANTS

**700+**  
REGISTERED ONLINE  
PARTICIPANTS

**93**  
COUNTRIES

**40+**  
YOUNG  
PEOPLE



**3**  
FOCUS GROUPS  
SETS

**188**  
PARTICIPANTS

**26k**  
TIKTOK  
VIEWS

**22**  
EXPERTS  
in the new Knowledge  
Management Working  
Group

**5k**  
WEBSITE  
VIEWS

### Digital Skills & Jobs Platform

**490** MEMBERS  
**29** COALITIONS

**330** APPLICATIONS  
**2k** CONTENT ITEMS



**10** EDUCATIONAL KITS

**9** LANGUAGES

**12** WEBINARS

**6** MASTER CLASSES

### MEDIA LITERACY CASE FOR EDUCATORS

**3**  
CO-DEVELOPMENT  
SESSIONS

**30**  
PARTICIPANTS  
in the MLCE workshop

## Why is digital citizenship important?

Digital citizenship is an increasingly important knowledge domain for pupils, teachers and parents or carers as online technologies play a growing role in the lives of children and young people. With new political priorities taking shape at European level, children's rights in a digital world continue to figure prominently on the European Commission agenda.

[The 2021-2027 Digital Education Action Plan](#) highlights a number of strategic priorities and activity lines that fit directly into European Schoolnet's digital citizenship remit. In particular, '*the need to enhance digital skills and competences for the digital transformation*', which requires:

- basic digital skills and competences from an early age,
- digital literacy, including fighting disinformation,
- good knowledge and understanding of data-intensive technologies, such as artificial intelligence,
- advanced digital skills, which produce more digital specialists and ensure that girls and young women are fairly represented in digital studies and careers.

### [The Commission's Communication 2030 Digital Compass: the European Way for the Digital Decade](#)

includes digital skills and digital citizenship among its core priorities to ensure that the same rights that apply offline can be fully exercised online. To make this ambition more concrete, in May 2022, the Commission published its new [European strategy for a better internet for kids \(BIK+\)](#), outlining its vision and action plan around three pillars, safe digital experiences (how to better protect children online), digital empowerment (how to better empower children to make sound choices online) and active participation (how to respect children's views).

Meanwhile, we are increasingly seeing the impact of the [Digital Services Act \(DSA\)](#). The DSA is a new set of European rules to make sure that all users, and especially children, young people and vulnerable users, are included and safe online. In particular, the DSA seeks to ensure that all organisations that provide online platforms and services protect the rights of all users, limit risks and stop the spread of harmful or illegal content.

## Our work

Against this background, European Schoolnet is running a variety of public and private projects, most notably:

### Better Internet for Kids

The Commission's [Better Internet for Kids \(BIK\)](#) initiative has a vision for age-appropriate digital services, with every child in Europe protected, empowered and respected online, and no one left behind. In 2023, European Schoolnet continued to maintain and develop the [BIK portal](#), which provides information, guidance and resources on better internet issues, while facilitating an internal space that caters to the needs of the community of safer internet centres, allowing them to build skills and share knowledge and expertise in the delivery of national online safety services.

- In February, 179 countries and territories celebrated [the 20th edition of Safer Internet Day](#) under the theme of 'Together for a better internet'. More information is available on the [www.saferinternetday.org](http://www.saferinternetday.org) campaign website.
- In August 2023, the [Digital Services Act \(DSA\)](#) went into effect. This seeks to ensure that all organisations that provide online platforms and services protect the rights of all users, limit risks and stop the spread of harmful or illegal content. A child-friendly version of the DSA provisions for protecting minors online is available to download [here](#).
- As 2023 was declared the European Year of Skills, in November, [the 2023 edition of the Safer Internet Forum](#) entitled 'Empowering Youth with skills for the Digital Decade' placed a spotlight on the skills that children and young people need in response to the emerging challenges and opportunities in the Digital Decade.



[The Digital Skills and Jobs Platform](#), a European Commission initiative that entered its fourth year in September 2023, continues to expand its portfolio of services and functionalities offered to all stakeholders interested in digital skills across Europe. The platform has published high-quality content and has offered a series of high-level European initiatives and events to a growing number of registered community users. The platform provides those interested in digital skills and jobs free access to European and national initiatives, training or funding opportunities, and reliable data, reports, research results, good practices, events information and community tools. It is designed as a one-stop-shop for centralising information and resources available at European and national levels, which were previously only obtainable via highly fragmented sources.

- The Digital Skills and Jobs Platform continues to work closely with the National Coalitions (NCs) and their national websites. A total of 21 National Coalitions are technically connected to the platform at present. The platform is an information hub and networking tool for the Digital Europe Programme Calls. The initiative hosted the fourth DEP Call Info Day organised on 2 June 2023 (with 311 attendees), and the fifth DEP Call Info Day and matchmaking event on 12 December 2023 (with 440 attendees).
- The platform team delivered a successful European Digital Skills Awards 2023 (EDSA) campaign, which resulted in over 330 applications in the five categories. Six winning projects gained the prestigious award. Since April 2023, the platform has also been the host for a new special type of pledges for cyber skills, associated with the Cybersecurity Skills Academy. So far, the platform has 12 Cybersecurity Skills Academy pledges. In addition to the [‘Test your digital skills’ self-assessment tool](#), platform users can now enrich their learning experience via [the Learning Paths](#). This new feature comes with a series of pre-designed paths in some key emerging technologies to guide learners through the large amount of educational material on the platform.



The [menABLE](#) project, which stands for Empower Manpower against gender-based violence online, aims to address the issue of gender-based violence. It does so by specifically targeting boys and young men. It develops educational tools, and conducts awareness activities in line with the overall project commitment to raise awareness, change social norms and behaviour, and end tolerance of all forms of gender-based violence. More specifically, the project aims to reach early teenagers (13-15 years) and late teenagers (16-18 years) through formal and non-formal educational settings by targeting educational professionals and adults, including heads of schools, teachers/educators, caregivers and other professionals working with young people in youth and sports

clubs, camps, libraries, and Safer Internet Centres amongst others. European Schoolnet is collaborating with Child Focus (Belgium), Center for Digital Youth Care (Denmark) and FORTH (Greece) from 2023 to 2025 in this project co-funded by the European Commission.



The [Media Literacy Case for Educators](#) project aims to enhance societal resilience by providing European teachers, trainers and librarians with the skills, tools and resources to be successful and innovative advocates and facilitators of media literacy. We heard from over 100 educators and librarians about the formats and methods that are best suited for teaching DML (digital media literacy) to young people aged 13-19. In the research phase, around 300 teens from over 10 countries participated in co-development sessions to discuss the most pressing topics among their age group and concerns they have, and finally, a thorough report was commissioned on [effective DML education techniques and interventions from around the world](#). The project started in 2023 and ends in 2025. It is funded by the [Creative Europe Programme \(CREA\)](#).



Led by European Schoolnet on behalf of [Video Games Europe](#), [Games in Schools](#) is a project designed to train teachers and educators across Europe on how to use video games as a pedagogical support in the classroom. The main objective of the project is to promote and foster games-based learning in the education sector and schools. The [Games in Schools MOOC 2022-23](#) for teachers provided insights about games-based learning, playful learning, gamification and practical examples of gaming tools and activities that can be used in teaching practice. A revised version of the popular [Using video games in school – guidelines for successful learning outcomes](#) handbook was published to cater to new and emerging trends and needs in the area. It includes updated examples and useful resources for teachers and aligns and integrates part of the research results in an accessible and meaningful way for educators and integrates content from the MOOC.

## Projects

### Better Internet for Kids

[Better Internet for Kids \(BIK\)](#) aims to create a safer and better internet for children and young people. As part of this initiative, European Schoolnet coordinates the Insafe-INHOPE network of Safer Internet Centres (SICs) in Europe, each comprising a national awareness centre, a helpline and a hotline. The project provides a coordination role to the European Network of Safer Internet Centres (SIC) and provides a secure online space within the core service platform to support their collaboration and knowledge sharing.



In today's world, digital transformation impacts the way we live, work and learn. This technological progress brings about undeniable benefits, but it also makes it increasingly difficult to keep up with the latest tech solutions. Consequently, our skills and knowledge become outdated at a faster pace, creating a growing gap between our capacities and the market needs. The [Digital Skills and Jobs Platform](#) therefore provides open access to a wide variety of high-quality information and resources for everyone interested in the broad topic of digital skills and jobs.



The [menABLE](#) project's primary objective is to combat online gender-based violence by fostering mutual awareness, tolerance and respect. It recognises that the active involvement of men and boys is crucial to achieving the project's goals. The project aims to prevent online gender-based violence by tackling its root causes and promoting prevention strategies, primarily, but not exclusively, targeting boys and young men.



The [Media Literacy Case for Educators](#) project aims to enhance societal resilience by providing European teachers, trainers and librarians with the skills, tools and resources to be successful and innovative advocates and facilitators of media literacy.



The [Games in Schools](#) project explores the opportunities and challenges offered by integrating games into teaching and learning.



The [European Film Factory](#), funded by the MEDIA programme of Creative Europe, provides a platform for film education and aims to support film literacy by giving teachers and their students the unique opportunity to actively participate in film education.

# STEM education

## STEM education



## Why is STEM Education important?

The lack of young people choosing Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) studies and careers continues to be a major challenge for Europe. Education can play a major role in partnership with businesses and other stakeholders to help increase interest in STEM studies and occupations. The need to foster STEM talent in young people so they can become the much-needed STEM professionals of tomorrow continues to be a top priority for European Schoolnet. Furthermore, STEM disciplines continue to be taught in an isolated way. Initiatives that promote interdisciplinary teaching, connected to real-life challenges (like sustainability or research), collaboration and whole-school approaches to STEM education continue to be a priority for the coming years.

## Our work

Below you will find an overview of the STEM initiatives, strategic areas and initiatives in 2023:



[Sciencix](#) promotes and supports a Europe-wide collaboration among STEM (science, technology, engineering, and maths) teachers, education researchers, policymakers and other STEM education professionals.

Coordinated by European Schoolnet, Sciencix has been running since 2010,

leading the exchange of knowledge and experiences in STEM education via its portal, publications, campaigns, professional development activities and networking events. Scientix was co-funded by the European Union's FP7 and Horizon 2020 research and innovation programmes from 2010 to 2022. Since April 2023, [Scientix](#) continues as an initiative of European Schoolnet, as part of its sustainability strategy.

The [STEM Alliance](#) was created to address an unprecedented STEM skills shortage in Europe. Low interest in STEM careers, declining performance in traditional STEM learning and the digital literacy gap are resulting in ever fewer STEM graduates – limiting not just innovation, but our ability to address global issues like climate change, mobility and energy. This initiative served as the umbrella project for all the STEM education related collaborations with industry partners. The results of the [STEM Alliance activities in 2023 can be found here](#). The STEM Alliance will become one of the key campaigns of Scientix from 2024, the community dedicated to advancing science education in Europe. This collaboration opens numerous opportunities for our partners, bringing together industry leaders, representatives from ministries of education, the European Commission, teachers, and schools under a unified umbrella.

**The STEM Discovery Campaign (SDC)** is a joint international initiative organised by Scientix, which invites projects, organisations, libraries, schools, universities and youth clubs across Europe and around the world to celebrate careers and studies in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). It takes place every year between 1 February and the end of April, with a peak of activities during the STEM Discovery Week (third week of April). In 2023, the SDC used the SDC app for the first time. This was developed with the support of Cisco, which helped showcase over 2 200 activities and had 360 000 participants.

European Schoolnet's programme to improve science, technology, engineering and mathematics teaching and learning in formal education follows the priorities set by our Ministries of Education STEM representatives Working Group and are implemented through different projects:

- Priority 1: **Improving STEM teaching in early childhood, primary and secondary education.**
- Priority 2: **Connecting STEM education with global challenges.** For example, this includes projects supporting sustainability.
- Priority 3: **Expanding access to STEM Careers.** This includes addressing gender role stereotypes.
- Priority 4: **Facilitating STEM educators exchange and peer learning.** Through validating and piloting initiatives, practice and solutions; sharing best practices and results from projects; etc.

## Projects



[SEER - The STE\(A\)M Education European Roadmap](#) is an improvement journey with different stages associated with intervention steps based on research and proven experiences with recommendations to get more STE(A)M-happy motivated and connected citizens. The overarching

objective of the project is to provide a set of roadmaps that will pave the way for the policy and institutional changes necessary for the large-scale implementation and mainstreaming of STE(A)M education in Europe. Here you can find an update with the [achievements of the first year of the SEER project](#) including highlights of policy recommendations for strengthening and mainstreaming STE(A)M Education in Europe.



**EmpowerED** aims to establish a pan-European network and platform for exchanges between European EdTech initiatives, support organisations, practitioners and policymakers. The project will map the EdTech landscape in Europe to reflect the current state of play in the sector. This will provide insight into trends linked to new schooling models and innovative education solutions. EmpowerED will provide policymakers with a clearer understanding of how they can better support, and work with, start-ups and SMEs in the fast-expanding EdTech ecosystem. The project will help consolidate and amplify the work of current EdTech organisations and will directly provide support to start-ups and SMEs, for example by offering training and capacity-building opportunities. EmpowerED will create a thriving EdTech ecosystem for better learning across the EU.



Nature-based solutions (NBS) are solutions that are inspired and supported by nature, are cost-effective and provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience. The overall objective of **NBS EduWORLD** is to nurture an NBS-literate society, supporting a just transition to a sustainable future. For this, the project will create an NBS community that facilitates synergies between NBS professionals and education providers and ensures free and easy access to NBS knowledge and resources for all. NBS EduWORLD is a unique consortium bringing together researchers, educators, NBS practitioners and even sports community members with the common goal of creating engaging and locally relevant educational materials centring around the environmental, social and professional merits of NBS.



**Carbon Act** aims to bring about a wide-ranging impact on climate change and sustainability education by developing a set of exemplary practices and guidelines that will support teachers in their education activities and influence policy and research at a structural level.

Education is a critical agent in addressing the issue of climate change. It encourages people to change behaviour and helps them make informed decisions. It paves the way for the implementation of the future European Climate Law.



**Life Terra** is founded on the knowledge that tree planting is regarded as the most cost-effective nature-based solution to capture carbon. As part of a multi-faceted mitigation strategy, planting trees can play an important role in the fight against climate change and the devastation it causes (heat waves, drought, forest loss, desertification, erosion, flooding). In 2023, European Schoolnet organised the Terra Mission MOOC, giving primary and secondary teachers the opportunity to raise environmental awareness in their schools and beyond. This course aimed to provide participants with knowledge of contemporary sustainability issues and tools to help students take action on climate change. Participants explored the Terra Mission educational resources and learnt about outdoor experiences and practical assignments. Furthermore, the MOOC guided them in creating their own learning scenarios based on the Terra Mission Educational Pack.

**EU4Ocean** is a project funded by the European Commission and implemented by a consortium of 12 partners across Europe, including European Schoolnet.

The EU4Ocean coalition combines EU-wide activities with actions dedicated to the Arctic Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean (including the North Sea), the Baltic Sea, the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the global ocean. Activities planned:

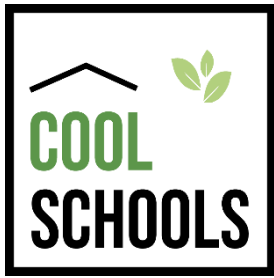
- a platform for organisations and individuals engaged in ocean literacy initiatives,
- a European youth forum for the ocean,
- a network of European Blue Schools.



Launched in November 2022, **GenB** is a 30-month-long project funded by Horizon Europe. This project is about informing and educating young people on more sustainable behaviours and choices to build a future. A generation that is informed on and interested in bioeconomy contributes to the implementation of the updated 2018 EU Bioeconomy Strategy and the European Green Deal priorities, the achievement of a climate-neutral Europe by 2050 and the Sustainable Development Goals.



**NBS Academy** sets to create a European community of practice (CoP) of teacher education and training providers, teachers, policy makers and other education experts focused on developing and testing new professional learning programmes for improving teachers' competences in education for environmental sustainability by utilising nature-based solutions (NBS).



**COOLSCHOOLS** is a transdisciplinary applied urban research project that examines the transformative potential of nature-based solutions (NBS) to support the creation of climate shelters in European school environments. It assesses how nature-based climate shelters can drive social-ecological transformations towards urban sustainability, climate resilience, social justice and quality education on multiple urban scales (from schools to metropolitan regions) and translate them into practical building capacity for school communities and beyond.



**LOESS**

LITERACY BOOST THROUGH AN OPERATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ECOSYSTEM OF SOCIETAL ACTORS ON SOIL HEALTH

The **LOESS** Horizon Europe project (Literacy boost through an Operational Educational Ecosystem of Societal actors on Soil health) started in June 2023. Under the 'A Soil Deal for Europe' EU mission, 20 partner organisations are joining efforts for three years to map, co-create and test methodologies and tools in 15 countries across Europe.

The final goals of the LOESS project are to raise awareness of the importance of soil and its functions and to increase soil literacy across Europe.



Since September 2022, European Schoolnet has participated in **Accelerating Teaching**, an Erasmus+-funded project on approaching particle accelerators and new scientific research through online professional development.

This project addresses the enhanced relevance of science for students by turning to science teachers in the EU and offering free-to-use digital online teaching and learning resources concerning state-of-the-art research and the physics behind particle accelerators. This was done through a massive open online course (MOOC) and continues with activities in 2024.



The **STE(A)M Learning Ecologies (SLEs)** project, funded by the EU through Horizon Europe, aims to develop inclusive science learning paths that span formal and informal environments. It emphasises collaboration among

education providers, enterprises and civil society, giving all actors the space and motivation to actively participate. SLEs recognises that learning environments encompass physical, social and cultural dimensions. By fostering diverse and locally adapted science programmes across institutions, SLEs aims to create robust learning ecologies that offer multiple avenues for students to engage with science.



As the European Union's digital platform for cultural heritage, **Europeana** plays a key role in the transformation and development of the sector. As of 2022, Europeana is at the heart of the European Commission's common European data space for

cultural heritage with work to deploy in collaboration with a consortium of 18 partners from nine EU countries. The project is funded under the Digital Europe programme and builds on and expands the existing functionalities and services of the Europeana Digital Service Infrastructure. As of early 2023, the Europeana website provides access to over 55 million digital objects – books, music, artworks, 3D resources and more – with sophisticated search and filter tools and many themed collections, exhibitions, galleries and blogs.

European Schoolnet's role in the project is to help mainstream the use and enforce the reuse of digital culture in formal and non-formal education settings, across curricula and disciplines and at a transnational level. To make this happen, European Schoolnet and the Europeana initiative are working together on the following activities:

- Organising and coordinating the Europeana Ambassador network,
- Community expansion through national activities,
- Maintaining the [Teaching with Europeana blog](#), an initiative to encourage educators to share their experiences using Europeana resources in an educational setting,
- Rerunning and translating the [Digital Education with Cultural Heritage MOOC](#).



The **MatataStudio-VinciBot pilot project** is coordinated by European Schoolnet, with the active support of the Future Classroom Lab (FCL), and Scientix, in close collaboration with the Network of FCL Lead Ambassadors. It aims to introduce children in later primary and early secondary school to programming and fundamental artificial intelligence (AI) through task-based technology and project-based technology activities. It fosters a hands-on learning approach, nurturing imagination and promoting digital literacy, all while cultivating computational design, engineering thinking and problem-solving abilities.

### Smart Connected Classrooms Pilot Phase 2

Building on the lessons learned from the first phase, European Schoolnet and Qualcomm, through the Qualcomm® Wireless Reach™ initiative and supported by Scientix STE(A)M Partnerships, are embarking on the second phase of the Smart Connected Classrooms Pilot project in the 2023/24 academic year. This second phase will investigate the impact of virtual reality in teaching and learning across two schools in Spain and Portugal. Additionally, in this second phase of the project, we will continue investigating the impact of the EaaS set, thereby advancing and expanding upon the findings in this document.

## Resources

Several STEM projects ended in 2023, offering a wide range of resources and outputs:

## ARETE



[outcomes here.](#)

The ARETE project aimed to support the pan-European interactive technologies effort both in industry and academia, through the multi-user interactions within augmented reality (AR) technologies evaluated in education in both professional and private contexts. Find the [ARETE PROJECT](#)

## Make it open



Make it Open aimed to develop a sustainable infrastructure of open schooling in Europe based on the approach, pedagogy, content, processes and tools of the maker movement. Discover a summary of activities delivered in 2023 and [the project outcomes here.](#)

## The STE(A)M Partnership Education Resilience in Europe



the solutions supported.

The STE(A)M Partnership Education Resilience in Europe (SPERE) finished with European Schoolnet's publication of the [‘Teaching immigrant students: challenges, needs and available solutions’ report](#) in September 2023 by. The report outlines the needs of teachers to better integrate students with an immigrant background in their classes and proposes possible solutions to the challenges teachers face in this context. Videos on SPERE provide more detailed information on

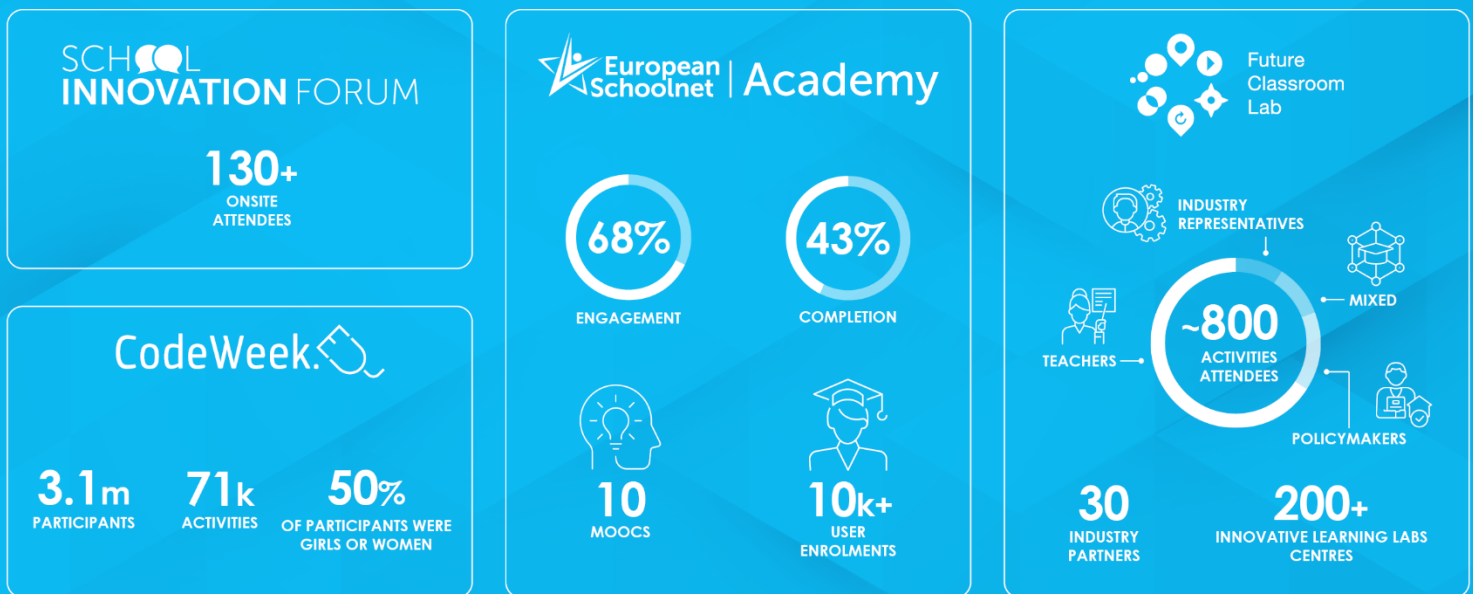
## Smart Connected Classrooms Pilot Phase 1

The Smart Connected Classrooms Pilot Project was launched in collaboration with Scientix STE(A)M Partnerships and Qualcomm Incorporated, through its Qualcomm® Wireless Reach™ initiative and coordinated by European Schoolnet. The pilot aimed to assist schools in their methodological and digital transformation to improve teacher effectiveness, achieve individualised student learning, and ensure digital inclusion for all learners through the pilot project in two countries.

From January to May 2023, the pilot was implemented in two schools, one in Spain and one in Portugal, with five teachers and 128 students.

# New teaching & learning models

## New teaching & learning models



### Why are new teaching & learning models important?

European Schoolnet strives to support the development and implementation of new teaching and learning models for the benefit of practitioners, decision-makers, private sector partners and ultimately, and most importantly, learners.

The actions encompassed in this area of work span from the provision of comprehensive professional development opportunities for teachers, through the Future Classroom Lab and European Schoolnet Academy, to the coordination of projects, ministerial working groups and communities of practice, focused on school innovation. All these initiatives undergo an iterative improvement and adaptation process, and the Future Classroom Lab programme more specifically has been the subject of a dedicated effort to revamp and strengthen the initiative.

The integration of policy exchange and research activities with peer learning and training programmes allows promising teacher and learning models to be debated, finetuned, validated and integrated into the daily practice of teachers, contributing to driving change and improvement in schools across Europe.

## Our work

Teachers' professional development and capacity-building are integral parts of the majority of European Schoolnet's projects. However, an important part of continuous professional development (CPD) activities is channelled through two flagship initiatives: the Future Classroom Lab and the European Schoolnet Academy.

### Future Classroom Lab



The [Future Classroom Lab \(FCL\)](#) initiative has been a flagship initiative in Europe since 2012, encouraging countless public authorities, schools, headmasters and teachers to embark in a journey of transformation and constant innovation. Following the same principle of continuous improvement and innovation, the initiative is currently undergoing a process of review and realignment of its development and strategy. This new strategy has been implemented since summer 2023.

The FCL is supported by approximately [30 industry partners](#) and a community of over [23 FCL Lead Ambassadors](#) from 15 countries. It also boasts a network of more than [200 innovative learning labs](#) across the world inspired by the FCL concept. In the current effort of scaling up the FCL, specific attention has been given to the reorganisation and expansion of the network of Future Classroom Lab Lead Ambassadors. This is expected to play a crucial role in the future in supporting the implementation of school innovation policies in their countries, mentoring schools and teachers on the integration of innovative methods in their practice and supporting the creation and management of local innovative learning labs.

Every year, the initiative organises several courses where teachers and teacher trainers can experience the classrooms of the future in practice, while a series of webinars takes a closer look at the various aspects of innovation in education. In 2023, the FCL organised five [face-to-face courses](#) entitled: "active learning in my school and classroom", "on-demand workshop: STEAM, innovative practices for engaging STEM teaching", "Summer Academy: Enhancing creativity and innovation in my classroom", "cultivating inclusive learning environments" and "interactive technologies for the future classroom".

Also, in the framework of the FCL activities, the 2023 edition of the [School Innovation Forum](#) was held on 6 and 7 June in Brussels with the theme of 'Innovating in times of transformation'.

## European Schoolnet Academy



Under the umbrella of the [European Schoolnet Academy](#), 10 massive open online courses were organised in 2023, which more than 16 000 teachers enrolled in. The courses were effective in both attracting teachers and meeting their expectations, and, following the success of the Code Week MOOC's study groups in 2021 and 2022, the hybrid learning model was implemented again this year with excellent results. In 2023, European Schoolnet published its [third annual European Schoolnet Academy Evolution Report](#), examining the aggregated data from all EUN Academy courses that ran in 2022.

## Projects

Teachers and decision-makers were supported by European Schoolnet in the context of major pan-European initiatives such as:

**CodeWeek.**  [EU Code Week](#) aims to promote coding and digital literacy in schools

by providing professional development opportunities to educators and engaging activities to students. In 2023, European Schoolnet offered two online courses and one face-to-face train the trainer camp in Brussels, and produced training modules, resources and challenges for schools. Through the input of its large community, European Schoolnet contributed to the overall impact of the campaign, which this year reached 3.1 million people, more than half of whom were girls.



[The European Digital Education Hub](#) is one of the actions of the European Commission Digital Education Action Plan seeking to improve cooperation on digital education at EU, national and regional level, among different education and training players in the private and public sectors, in research, policy and practice. As part of the consortium coordinating the hub, European Schoolnet has contributed to the expansion of the community among K12 education actors, shared relevant information and opportunities across its channels and actively participated in workshops and debates. More specifically, and together with Educraftor, European Schoolnet has been supporting the conceptualisation and organisation of the accelerator programme. After a first successful iteration, a second call for applications to the European Digital Education Hubs Accelerator Programme received the interest of almost 30 digital education solutions. Eight of them were selected to undergo the programme and validate their solutions in real educational settings or in innovative labs.



**DIGI-LINGO** is a transnational cooperation project involving partners

from Denmark, Norway, Belgium and Spain. It aims to:

- Develop new teaching guidelines for digital language learning,
- Develop easily accessible methods for virtual language exchange,
- Establish a sustainable organisational model anchored at regional level.

The project is focused on upper-secondary level, but in time, it should be applicable to the broader scale of language education in the whole European Union.



At a crucial time for Europe, when Euroscepticism has grown, along with populism and extremism, **Teach Europe** aims to upskill teachers by providing them with innovative learning scenarios to implement an EU perspective across the curriculum. The project will also empower teachers through training and give students the opportunity to learn more about the EU, think critically about their European identity and explore active citizenship.

Teach Europe firstly established a task force of teachers and experts (composed of 12 representatives from six different countries) who are currently supporting the design, selection and curation of the learning scenarios through co-construction and peer learning processes.

## Resources

- The FCL explored facets of the educational context, such as the impact of sound in learning and teaching in schools. In collaboration with Saint-Gobain Ecophon, we launched a pan-European survey for teachers to investigate teacher well-being in secondary schools with a particular focus on the impact of classroom acoustics on educators' work and their physical and mental health. The report titled '[Sound in Schools and its Impact on Learning and Teachers' Wellbeing](#)' captures the results of this survey.
- The European Schoolnet Academy [organised a series of thematic webinars early in 2023](#) and presenting a report called '[Effective Use of Learner-Generated Data in Teacher Training Activities](#)', authored by Prof. Hendrik Drachsler. The report offers an analysis and introduction to the concepts and use of learner-generated data (learning analytics) and practical examples of learning analytics applications.

# School networking

## School networking



## Why is school networking important?

Networking is about growing together. European Schoolnet empowers individual educators by providing opportunities to meet and collaborate to develop and improve thousands of schools. Our networking activities enable educators from different countries and varied backgrounds to learn from each other, get inspired to tackle new challenges and emulate their most innovative and creative colleagues. Furthermore, networking allows the whole system to grow; everyone can help and support others with their competences, skills, attitudes and qualities.

## Our work

One of the founding principles of European Schoolnet over 20 years ago was to encourage schools and teachers across Europe to become part of an interconnected system, which allows sharing practices and learning from the most innovative schools and teachers. This system supports all schools and teachers to develop further, increasing the quality of education in Europe. For this reason, since it began, European Schoolnet has been involved in pan-European school networking activities, which prepared the ground for the development of [eTwinning](#), a European Union initiative called 'The Community for Schools in Europe'.

In 2023, European Schoolnet continued to provide the Central Support Service for eTwinning under a service contract with the European Commission. Funded under the Erasmus+ programme, eTwinning is a vibrant community that, in its 19 years of existence, has reached almost 1.2 million teachers working in over 300 000 schools.

Since 2022, eTwinning has been part of the [European School Education Platform](#), the new meeting point for school education stakeholders across Europe. The platform offers topical articles, pedagogical resources, professional development activities and networking opportunities.

## Projects

**[European School Education Platform](#)**: Launched in 2022, the new integrated platform is gradually encompassing the eTwinning community services, all previous activities of the School Education Gateway, and professional development activities (formerly known as Teacher Academy). The European School Education Platform is becoming a new meeting point for all stakeholders in the school education sector – school staff, researchers, policymakers and other professionals – from early childhood education and care to primary and secondary level schools, including initial vocational education and training. The platform is an initiative of the European Commission and is funded by the Erasmus+ programme.



**[eTwinning](#)**, which is available in 43 European countries and funded under the Erasmus+ programme of the European Commission, promotes school collaboration and teachers' professional development. It provides support, tools and services for schools through a variety of means, including a digital environment. eTwinning is part of the European School Education Platform, where school staff can develop projects together and participate in online learning opportunities.

# Our committees & working groups

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European Schoolnet has four working groups and two interest groups, set up by our ministries of education to tackle a specific educational challenge, with a remit and duration defined by the ministries involved.

## ICT@SCHOOL Indicators Working Group

In 2023, the ICT@school Indicators Working Group discussed the [Kennisset's Bit by Bit project](#), developing standards for cybersecurity in schools and supporting schools' knowledge and expertise in tackling data safety and making agreements with digital service suppliers. An [initial survey](#), conducted by the project in 2023, revealed that there were no primary schools meeting all the cybersecurity standards. The project supports schools through actions such as offering [guidelines](#), risk analysis and a self-assessment tool.

The group has also discussed the digital strategy of the Flemish Department of Education and the monitoring of the digital transition in schools, which was carried out by [the Flemish Education Inspectorate](#). The inspectorate developed a smartphone app called '[Voi.ce](#)', for collecting survey data from teachers, student, parents, school leaders and school support staff. The data collected helps with understanding to what extent schools are able to implement their digital strategy plan. The results suggest that schools have improved in their digital transition since the [national monitoring conducted in 2018](#), but still need more pedagogical support in integrating technology into lessons. Most education stakeholders agree that their schools provide opportunities to share expertise in using ICT, but around half think that their school lacks resources to implement their own ICT policy.

[PIRLS 2021](#) and [PISA 2022](#) were released in 2023, giving the working group an opportunity to discuss the implications for digital education indicators. [Data from PIRLS](#) suggest that there is variation between countries for the daily time spent with digital devices. Both international surveys indicate the importance of moderate use of digital devices for overall achievement and reading comprehension.

## Digital Citizenship Working Group

The Digital Citizenship Working Group, composed of members or nominees from ministries of education, was established in 2017. It tackles challenges related to digital citizenship, whilst keeping teachers and schools actively involved in its debates and the design of its action plans. In 2023, the focus of the working group was inclusion and wellbeing. The first meeting addressed the digital inclusion of vulnerable groups and was set against the background of the [BIK+ strategy](#), which aims for 'age-appropriate digital services, with no one left behind and with every child in Europe protected, empowered and respected

online'. The second meeting focused on digital wellbeing, sharing ongoing local and international initiatives to promote digital wellbeing in schools and reflecting on current European school policies.

## The Ministries of Education Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) representatives Working Group

The Ministries of Education Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) representatives Working Group is a platform for discussion and exchange for ministries of education regarding their STEM education policies. The overall objective of this initiative is to help lay the foundations for medium and long-term strategies and activities between Ministries of Education in the field of STEM education, and especially within the Scientix project, following an agenda that addresses the ministries' priorities and main interests. European Schoolnet coordinates the working group. The working group was launched in March 2016 and ministries of education are responsible for appointing the members. Since March 2023, 25 ministries of education from 24 countries have appointed a STEM representative to participate in the Working Group, including: Belgium (Flanders), Belgium (Wallonia), Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland and Türkiye.

In March 2023, the members of the STEM Working Group redefined the priorities for STEM education for the next period.

## The Interactive Classroom Working Group

The Interactive Classroom Working Group (ICWG) was set up in 2013. The ICWG aims to enable education authorities to explore common areas of concern, share experiences, address policy challenges related to the integration of a wide range of technologies in classrooms and investigate their impact on teaching and learning. Every year, it explores different topics connected to the priorities and interests of its members.

## Data Interest Group

The interest group was created to better understand and discuss the benefits and challenges of digitally processed data for student learning. The topic has become particularly important for education since teaching and learning urgently moved online during the pandemic.

In 2023, the members of the interest group addressed the question of learning analytics in a discussion building session on a presentation by Barbara Wasson, University of Bergen, about four dilemmas from the perspective of Norway. The dilemmas discussed were the following: the need for information versus the need for data protection; learning as an individualised process versus social process; centralisation versus autonomy and competence needs versus competence reality.

A case study about educational data in Croatia was the other point discussed by the group. Jurica Vratarić and Mirta Janeš from CARNET presented different services and support that CARNET provides for

the whole education system, at national level like an enrolment and registry system, eDiary, eClassroom management system, education and learning analytics (including measuring, collecting, analysing and reporting), digital education material management, a career management system for students, a professional development system for teachers and support for schools through helpdesk, webpages, and a financial system.

In addition to the thematic discussions, at each group meeting, a *What is going on?* 'tour de table' is organised, enabling all members to be aware of and share their respective recent developments in countries concerning educational data about students' learning.

## Small and Rural Schools Interest Group

Politically speaking, two major and interconnected issues emerge when considering small and rural schools in Europe: the efficiency problem, and the inequality of the provision of education.

In 2023, the Small and Rural Interest Group presented its first publication titled '[Rural Schools Under Focus](#)'. This publication features 11 monographies covering 11 countries (Croatia, Czechia, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Poland, Serbia, Sweden and Spain) in 11 languages, the [executive summary](#) and a comparative analysis of the findings of these monographies.

You can find the [report](#), the [executive summary](#) and the [monographies](#) here.

**[Find more about our Working Groups & Interest Groups](#)**

# Who we are

## Our people

**Our international, diverse and dynamic team is** driven by the same mission: to support all players in transforming Europe's education to remain fit for the 21st century. Our not-for-profit network brings together education policy, research and practice through exchange and collaboration between stakeholders on local, regional, national and EU level.

We do this by identifying and testing promising innovative practices, sharing evidence about their impact, encouraging school networking and supporting the mainstreaming of teaching and learning practices for inclusive education. Digital technology is a significant focus of European Schoolnet's work because of its critical role in designing and implementing future classroom scenarios and in supporting new forms of learning, both in and out of school. European Schoolnet continues to position itself as a key organisation in Europe that is concerned with the development and demonstration of scenarios for the schools of the future.

As **a responsible organisation**, we pay special attention to how we behave and carry out our work.

That is why every employee is committed to working to high ethical standards by assisting the work of our network of ministries of education, acting responsibly, impartially and objectively, and being loyal, open-minded and supportive, an overall code of conduct that embodies [our core values](#).



**97**  
STAFF

**26**  
NATIONALITIES



**34**  
AVERAGE AGE

### Staff number per team:

Science Education:	<b>24</b>
European School Education Platform:	<b>23</b>
Digital Citizenship Department:	<b>22</b>
Knowledge Building:	<b>7</b>
Development & Advocacy:	<b>7</b>
Technical:	<b>6</b>
Administration and finance:	<b>6</b>
Project Support:	<b>5</b>
Comms & Events:	<b>13</b>

## Our members

### Belgium

[Ministère de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles, Administration générale de l'Enseignement \(AGE\)](#)

[Vlaams Ministerie van Onderwijs en Vorming](#)

<b>Bulgaria</b>	Observer country
<b>Croatia</b>	<a href="#">Ministarstvo Znanosti i obrazovanja</a>
<b>Cyprus</b>	<a href="#">Παιδαγωγικό Ινστιτούτο Κύπρου</a>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	<a href="#">Dům zahraniční spolupráce (DZS)</a>
<b>Estonia</b>	<a href="#">Haridus- ja Noorteamet</a>
<b>Finland</b>	<a href="#">Opetushallitus/Utbildningsstyrelsen</a>
<b>France</b>	<a href="#">Ministère de l'éducation nationale, et de la jeunesse et des sports</a>
<b>Georgia</b>	Observer country
<b>Germany</b>	Observer country
<b>Greece</b>	<a href="#">Υπουργείο Παιδείας, Έρευνας και Θρησκευμάτων</a>
<b>Hungary</b>	<a href="#">Oktatási Hivatal</a>
<b>Iceland</b>	Observer country
<b>Ireland</b>	<a href="#">An Roinn Oideachais</a>
<b>Israel</b>	Observer Country
<b>Italy</b>	<a href="#">INDIRE, Istituto Nazionale di Documentazione, Innovazione e Ricerca Innovativa</a>
<b>Kosovo</b>	Observer country
<b>Latvia</b>	<a href="#">Izglītības un zinātnes ministrija</a>
<b>Lithuania</b>	<a href="#">Nacionalinė švietimo agentūra</a>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	<a href="#">Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse - Grand-Duché de Luxembourg</a>
<b>Malta</b>	<a href="#">Ministry of Education and Sport</a>
<b>Netherlands</b>	<a href="#">Stichting Kennisnet</a>
<b>Norway</b>	<a href="#">Utdanningsdirektoratet</a>
<b>Poland</b>	<a href="#">Ministerstwo Edukacji i Nauki</a>
<b>Portugal</b>	<a href="#">Direção Geral da Educação</a>
<b>Romania</b>	Observer Country
<b>Serbia</b>	<a href="#">Ministarstvo prosvete, nauke i tehnološkog razvoja, uz operativnu podršku Fondacije Tempus</a>
<b>Slovakia</b>	<a href="#">Ministerstvo školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu Slovenskej republiky</a>

**Slovenia** [Ministrstvo za izobraževanje, znanost in šport](#)

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**Spain** [Instituto Nacional de Tecnologías Educativas y de Formación del Profesorado](#)

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**Sweden** [Skolverket](#)

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**Switzerland** [Movetia - the National Agency for Exchange and Mobility](#)

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**Türkiye** [Milli Eğitim Bakanlığı Yenilik ve Eğitim Teknolojileri Genel Müdürlüğü](#)

# Funding

## Projects funded or co-funded by the European Union in 2023



Co-funded by  
the European Union



European  
Commission

### Erasmus+ Programme

- eTwinning, School Education Gateway and Teacher Academy  
"Provision of a platform and other services to support school education and of central support services for eTwinning".
- Accelerating Teaching
- Assess@Learning
- Agile EDU
- ContinueUP
- 21 century European Teachers
- eSafety Label
- DIGI-LINGO
- Europe digital education Hub
- NBS Academy

### Erasmus+ Jean Monnet action

- Teach Europe

### Horizon Europe & Horizon 2020

- ARETE
- Make it Open
- GENB
- SEER
- SLE's
- NBS EDU World
- LOESS
- Oceans4ALL: Ocean Literacy for all

### Connecting Europe Facility and European Union Member States

- EUROPEANA

### Creative Europe Media Programme of the European Union

- European Film Factory

### Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL)

- EmpowerED

- Better Internet for Kids
- European Digital Skills & Jobs platform

### LIFE Programme

- Life Terra

### Structural Reform Support Programme

- SRSP Flanders

### Funded by the European Commission

- Digital SkillUp
- EU Code Week

### Funded by the European Investment Bank (EIB)

- EIBURS

### Funded by Innoviris (Brussels - capital region)

- COOLSCHOOLS

### Privately funded projects

- STEM Alliance

#### PREMIUM PARTNERS



#### GENERAL PARTNERS

AIRBUS FOUNDATION



- Future Classroom Lab



- Game In School (GIS)



- KONICA MINOLTA



KONICA MINOLTA

- LEGO



- Matatalab Pilot



- Microsoft Edition Build Challenge



# Closing words

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This report summarises our performance during the course of 2023 and our commitment to our 27-year-old purpose: *to transform education across Europe, bringing innovation for public advantage.*

European Schoolnet would like to extend its gratitude to all those who believe in the positive impact of our work. We thank our network of ministries of education, which every year develops our strategic vision to explore solutions to some of the most important societal challenges and offers value to the education community.

Looking forward to 2024, our organisation will continue to invite all key players to challenge current thinking and to explore effective ways of mainstreaming innovation in education across Europe. To do so, the organisation will focus on:

- Supporting ministries of education to transform Europe's educational systems with innovative solutions that motivate, protect and empower the next generation of students and teachers.
- Facilitating synergies between practitioners, researchers, schools, policymakers and the industry at European and national level to foster new teaching and learning models, develop teachers' capacity building, facilitate schools' partnerships, attract talent to STEM careers and promote safe and responsible use of data, new technologies, new environments and new teaching methods.

We also look forward to our continued cooperation with key international organisations, such as the OECD, participating in its [Schools+ Network initiative](#), and the European Commission, to support 'thriving EdTech ecosystem for better learning' and the implementation of a European Education area before 2025.

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