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Children need quality content online, and skills and tools for using the Internet safely
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Today, children in Europe start using the Internet on average when they are 7 years old. One in three goes online via mobile phones, game consoles or other mobile devices. At the same time, many young children say there are not enough good things for them to do online. They need the skills and tools for using the Internet safely and responsibly.

In May 2012 we set out a [European Strategy for a Better Internet for Children](#) [2] to give children the digital skills and tools they need to fully and safely benefit from being online. It also aims to unlock the potential of the market for interactive, creative and educational online content. The strategy proposes a series of actions grouped around the following main goals:

- Stimulate the production of creative and educational online content for children as well as promoting positive online experiences for young children
- scaling up awareness and empowerment including teaching of digital literacy and online safety in all EU schools
- Create a safe environment for children through age-appropriate privacy settings, wider use of parental controls and age rating and content classification
- Combat child sexual abuse material online and child sexual exploitation

The strategy brings together the European Commission and Member States with mobile phone operators, handset manufacturers and providers of social networking services to deliver concrete solutions for a better internet for children.

We will carry out its tasks mainly through the implementation of the [Connecting Europe Facility](#) [3], the instrument for co-funding the digital service infrastructure for making a better internet for children, but also through other programmes such as [H2020](#) [4] .

The strategy document is [available](#) [5] in 22 official languages.

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