

“We can do it together”

“The peer learning in groups : Civil Education class”

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For the peer learning in groups programme “We can do it together”, we decided to focus on electronic/cyber crime. This subject matter is included in the course “*Civil Education*” taught for the second year upper secondary education (Lyceum). Students are very interested in electronic/cyber crime since they all or most of them participate in social networks. However, most of them are unaware of the dangers they are exposed to.

All the 27 students of class B1 worked in groups. The groups were formed so that students with exceptional skills in Informatics and Internet Technology would help other students with less developed such skills. More specifically, 5 groups of 5-6 students worked in the Info lab, helping each other. In each group, 1-2 students participated who had exceptional skills in Informatics and Internet Technology and also participated in the Erasmus+ project. These students helped the others members of the groups with less developed skills in Informatics and Internet Exploring.

Each group studied a different topic. Students worked by producing work sheets in cooperation with their teacher responsible. The topics they all agreed to study were the following:

Group 1: Myths and truth about internet- cyber crime definition

Group 2: Forms of cyber crime

Group 3: Features of cybercrime

Group 4: Dangers that children and teenagers might be exposed to

Group 5: Cyber crime protection

The results of the groups’ assignments were presented in the class using Power Point with all students present. The results of all five groups are briefly presented as follows:

“Electronic/Cyber Crime”

The rapid development of technology and specially that of technology of information as well as the widespread use of the internet have brought revolutionary changes in all daily activities, in the production process, in trade, education, entertainment, and even the way of thinking of modern citizens. These changes, which generally improve our quality of life, are also responsible for many dangers and for the new forms of crime. These new forms of crime are defined as “Electronic Crime” or “Cyber Crime”.

Forms of Cyber Crime:

- Invasion and sabotage on the web
- Unauthorized access
- Spreading viruses, harboring offences
- Hacking
- Forgery and fraud

Features of Cyber Crime

- Cyber crime is fast, committed in real time, even in seconds, and often the victim is unaware of its taking place.
- It is easy to commit for those who know, and the traces it leaves are in a digital form.
- Cyber criminals often do not appear with their real identity and are sending e-mails with falsified information.

Dangers that children and teenagers might be exposed to

- Children may be placed in inappropriate pornographic or offensive content.
- Children may come into contact with strangers that can hurt them.
- Children are affected by the indirect but impressive internet ads.
- Children may become addicted to the use of the internet so they might avoid their social activities, their school obligations, their games with friends.

Basic protecting techniques

- Make sure your computer is configured securely.
- Choose strong passwords and keep them safe.
- Protect your computer with security software.
- Review bank and credit card statements regularly.
- Check the websites.

- Think very carefully before you decide to meet someone that you have met online. Ask the opinion of your parents about this subject.
- In case that you will decide to meet your “internet friend”, inform your parents or someone you trust and make sure that the meeting will be in a public place.
- Do not trust immediately the stuff you see on the internet.
- Talk to your parents about what you see online.
- Hellenic Police provides services in order to strike down cyber crime

All students were very satisfied from this peer learning experience.