Triangle's progress

In this (test) phase of the Triangle project, we are working hard on the further development of the Triangle platform in the three countries involved. The digital environment has now been updated and the necessary technical refinements have been implemented. Feedback from children, youngsters, and teachers, among others, ensures that Triangle can be expanded into an online place where children and (young) adults in closed (youth) institutions work on improving their digital, social and vocational skills. Until August 2024, pilots will take place in the Netherlands, Vlaanderen and Portugal.

Creative workshops through theTriangle platform

For a successful return to society, it is important that children and (young) adults in closed (youth) institutions have more insight in who they are, where they want to go and what they need to get there. To this end, Triangle partner Click F1 develops creative workshops, which will be offered through the Triangle platform. The workshops revolve around identifying one's own positive qualities through digital storytelling. Max ter Beek of Click F1 gave workshops to 64 youngsters in closed youth institution De Hartelborgt (Spijkenisse) and 10 youngsters in Penal Institution Lelystad. He was struck by how proud the youngsters were to highlight a positive characteristic of themselves.
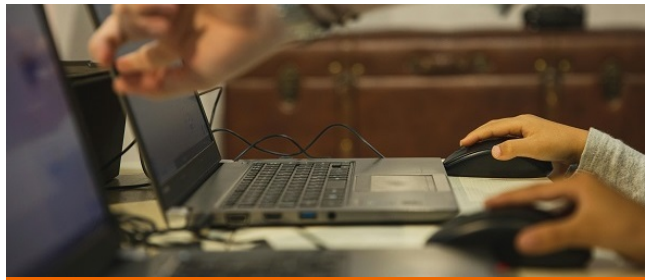
Partner meeting in Lisbon, Portugal

The Triangle team was in Lisbon on September 12 and 13, for the third Transnational Project Meeting. During the meeting, we discussed the project's progress and our ambition for 2024. On the first day, Lurdes Barata, affiliated with the Portuguese Juvenile Justice Department (DGRSP), gave a presentation on the Portuguese juvenile justice system. She explained that in Portugal, children between the ages of 12 and 16 who have committed a serious criminal offense, can be ordered by the judge to be admitted to an educational center, with an emphasis on a pedagogical approach.

Portugal: Charter of Human Rights in the Digital Age

Following the presentation of Lurdes Barata, we visited an *educational center* in Lisbon: *Centro Educativo Navarro de Paiva*. Children there have access to the internet and are taught digital skills. This is a right in Portugal, laid down in the 'Charter of Human Rights in the Digital Age' in 2021.This Charter aligns the digital world with human rights, including children's rights. It contains rights and obligations that apply in a digital environment. For example, there are provisions on the right to free access to the internet and the development of digital skills. Attention is also paid to the special protection and care children need regarding their online well-being and safety.
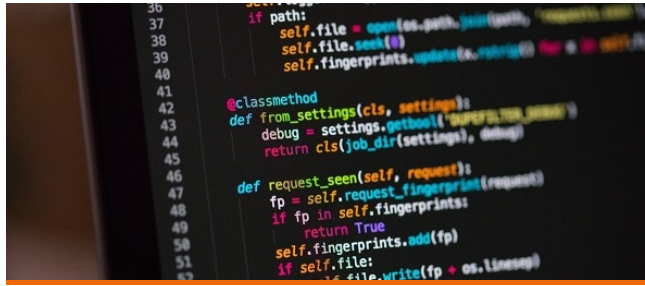

Publication

At the end of June 2023, our Portuguese Triangle partner Innovative Prison Systems (IPS) published this article on its website: Unlocking Potential: Empowering Incarcerated Youth through Digital Education. It discusses the added value of digital education for the development of youngsters staying in closed (youth) institutions. The article also addresses how children and youngsters fall behind during detention when it comes to their digital skills. This digital divide constitutes an additional barrier to successful reintegration.
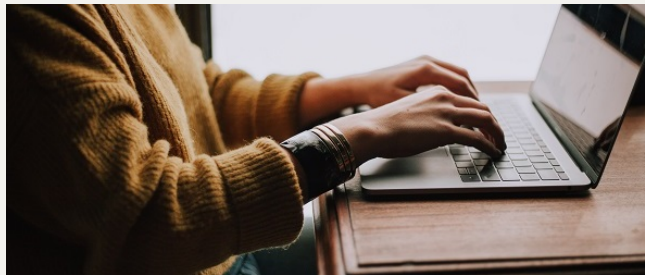

No digital divide, but digital inclusion

In the Triangle Project, we strive for the digital inclusion of all children and youngsters staying in closed (youth) institutions. Digital inclusion means having equal opportunities to participate in the digital society and ensures both access to the internet and digital literacy. Based on the right to non-discrimination, children deprived of their liberty also have a right to equal and effective access to the digital world (UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, General Comment 25, paragraph 11). Governments should therefore take all measures necessary to tackle the digital exclusion of children.

Triangle World Website

To give an overview of the Triangle environment, we are developing the Triangle World Website, which is accessible to everyone. The website is still under construction, but we will present the final look and feel in early 2024. Feel free to take a look at the Triangle World Website by clicking here.

Online Sneak Preview Triangle platform

📅 December 19, 2023   🕐 10.00 - 12.00

The online Sneak Preview of Triangle for the Netherlands and Belgium will take place on December 19, 2023 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. During this online Sneak Preview, project leader Max ter Beek (Click F1) introduces Triangle, talks about the goals of the platform and shows how Triangle can be used safely in closed (youth) institutions. We would like to invite you to attend our online Sneak Preview. You can sign up by sending an email to: info@defenceforchildren.nl. Thereafter, you will receive the Zoom link for the preview by e-mail.

More information and newsletters

You'll find more information on the Triangle project and the platform's progress at the special project page of Defence for Children (in Dutch) or via this link (in English). This will be regularly updated. To keep you informed, we will also send out a Triangle newsletter about once every two months. If you do not wish to receive any further newsletter and want to unsubscribe, or another interested party wishes to apply for the newsletter, this is possible via the telephone number or e-mail address below.

Funding

The Triangle Project is funded by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union. Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed are those of the author(s) only and do not

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