



Webwise in Ireland

Webwise is the Internet Safety initiative of the National Centre for Technology in Education (NCTE) in Ireland. The NCTE is an agency of The Department of Education and Science which manages the Government's ICT in schools policy and programmes.

Free Teacher Training

Webwise created a 2-hour teacher Workshop for primary and post primary teachers on social networking. The Workshop, called [Bebo. What's going on!](#) was designed to answer their needs in relation to the widespread use of social networking sites by their students. The free teacher Workshops are delivered in Education Centres or in schools by NCTE ICT Tutors throughout the country. A number of schools have undertaken the [Workshops](#) as part of a whole staff continual professional development day.

The session begins with a demonstration of the latest technologies – social networking, Instant Messaging, webcams – used by young people and then the participants have the opportunity to try them out. They set up their own profiles and have fun with the technologies. They then discuss safety issues involved with the different technologies and are introduced to the Webwise Resources that are available to them.

The Workshops were first held in December 2007 and have proved to be the most requested teacher-training course in the current NCTE's Teaching Skills Initiative's Spring Schedule. The hands-on practical element of the Workshops has proved most appealing to teachers.

