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Summary

On-line communication and pupils' social relationships

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Pupils mostly use the internet as a social medium; they act on-line in the same way they act in other segments of the public sphere to which they have access: they meet, compete for a social status, introduce themselves and take risks in order to assess the limits of the social world. The internet (and social networks in particular) gives them unlimited experimental environment in which to try out social relationships. The social networks are relatively safe places where pupils can „practice life", test out things they find difficult or impossible in actual relationships in the school, at home or in the park. Through the customs and rules that govern the society, in a surrounding that excludes the adults, pupils learn from their own experience in a relatively safe environment.

 Keywords: generation Y, on-line, social networks, social relationships, social skills.