

# Parental mediation of the Internet use of Primary students: Beliefs, strategies and difficulties

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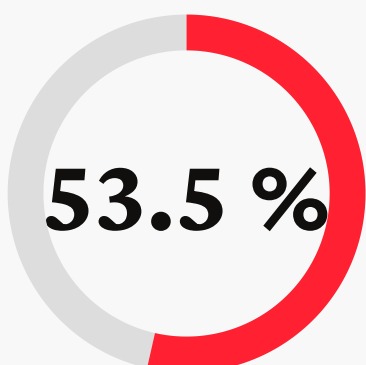


Parental mediation of children's use of the Internet consists in the management by mothers and fathers of their children's relationship with the media. It is also a relevant type of intervention to promote responsible and safe access to the digital space. The research takes into account the beliefs, daily practices and difficulties faced by parents when teaching their children about the risks and benefits of the Internet.

## METHODOLOGY

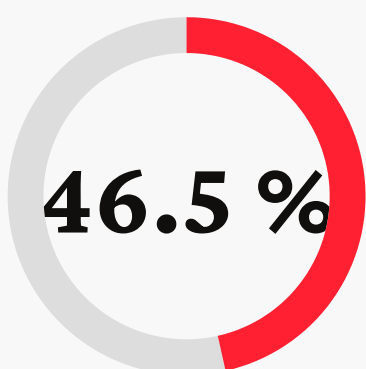
Through four discussion groups, a debate was held on the role of mothers and fathers of primary school students in children's media consumption.

Thirty-seven mothers and seven fathers of third (8-9 years old) and sixth (12-13 years old) grades students from four schools in Gipuzkoa (two public and two subsidized) participated.



## Restrictive or control strategies

Parents tend to restrict Internet access through the establishment and application of rules, spatial-temporal organization and supervision.



## Instructional or supportive strategies

Parental mediation is based, in this case, on communication and teaching strategies, and to a lesser extent on modeling (setting an example) and stimulation.

## CONCLUSIONS

Parental beliefs about Internet use at primary ages reveal a more pessimistic than optimistic conception. There is a loss of parental authority in this area and their mediation consists more of a reaction than a planned response.



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