02 Show your children the correct use of the Internet

Which of the following items cause(s) you to utilize the Internet?

Searching for useful information, acquiring various information, entertaining yourself at your leisure, seeking for facts to enrich your knowledge, participating in the installed games, making friends through ICQ, participating in the immoral activities of the Internet or committing crimes through the Internet.

As parents, how are you going to help your children to exert the correct use of the Internet?

Normally speaking, there are two sorts of effects in the utilization of the Internet:

- Positive effects: to be acquainted with the outside world and to enhance the competency of language use and general knowledge
- Negative effects: be indulged in the use of the Internet, be acquainted with scum, be deceived by false messages and linger about in the Internet café

Effects brought by being indulged in the participation in Internet activities:

- The time allotted to studies will be lessened and the person will be lagging far behind the normal academic standard.
- The person will be detached from reality, holding no distinctive difference between the real and the fabricate world, be unable to distinguish between truth and fiction.
- The person's interpersonal relationship will be deteriorated, being unwilling to have dealings with people and is flinching in any situation.
- The person's normal schedule and health will be greatly affected.

The strategy of helping your children to exert the correct use of the Internet in the present IT era:

- Keep contacting with your children positively and mutually to understand their state of mind and attitude. Try to allot some time to utilize the Internet with them during their spare time or in holidays and make discussions concerning the information obtained.
- Learn how to utilize the Internet information and practise the relevant regulations with your children, pointing out the seriousness and the possible penalties for any violation, and the appropriate conduct and norms for Internet utilization.
- Let your children understand futurology and the danger hidden in the Internet, e.g. the traps and frauds, virus and immoral websites therein.
- Help your children to nourish the correct manner and practice of utilizing the Internet, e.g. it can be used only when all the homework is done or only during the holiday and never download any unidentified files, etc.
- Encourage your children to utilize the Internet at home. Should they have to use it in other places, advise them to choose the appropriate venues, e.g. government or community organizations open for the public. It is because there are staff members around to attend to their needs, a limit to the time of using and with the installment of filtrating equipment, lessening the chance of being affected by immoral websites.

Centre of Psychopedagogical Support and Special Education
Tel. 28401010