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Newsletter - September 2026

Dear Reader, welcome to our newsletter!

We are happy to share with you the latest updates from our journey to transform informatics education. In this edition, you'll find:

- First results from the piloting of teaching and learning materials
- Digital First Final Event
- Our latest blog articles

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First results from the piloting of teaching and learning materials

The DIGITAL FIRST pilots with students have now been completed across Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain. The learning scenarios were tested in 30 schools and 42 implementation groups, involving 757 primary and secondary students and 46 teachers. Across the different national contexts, classroom activities combined discussion, collaboration, programming, digital creation and reflection, covering all ten DIGITAL FIRST topics and the seven digital functions included in the project framework.



The pilots also produced an extensive evidence base: 741 pre-pilot and 589 post-pilot student questionnaire records, 46 teacher questionnaires or implementation evaluations, 75 parent questionnaires and 14 documented qualitative sessions. National reports highlight strong student engagement when activities are practical and connected with everyday digital experiences. They also show the importance of realistic lesson duration, teacher preparation, appropriate guidance, and reliable access to technology. This evidence will now support the final analysis and refinement of the DIGITAL FIRST learning materials.

Overall, the implementation results show that the scenarios can be transferred across school systems and age groups when teachers can adapt pacing, examples and tools. Practical, collaborative activities generated the clearest engagement, while limited lesson time and uneven technical access remained common challenges. The findings support flexible, classroom-ready materials with clear teacher guidance.

Currently, our partners from UDC are working on the detailed analysis of the results, to obtain sound conclusions that serve as core for the project final validation, and also for the global educational community interested on the functional approach to informatics teaching.

Join Digital First Final Event!



Digital First is delighted to announce its Final Conference, taking place on Thursday, 22 October 2026 at the BIP Meeting Centre in Brussels. The event will be held jointly with **Teachers 4.0 project**, a fellow EU-funded project working towards the same goal: preparing teachers and learners for an increasingly digital world. Whether you are an educator, researcher, policymaker, or simply passionate about the future of digital education, this is an event you will not want to miss.

The conference will run from 10:00 to 16:00 CEST and can be attended both in person and online, giving everyone the opportunity to take part regardless of location.

What to Expect

The day will open with a joint session, Two Projects, One Mission, offering an interactive and behind-the-scenes look at what Teachers 4.0 and Digital First have learned and achieved over the course of their work. This will be followed by a keynote speech from a leading voice, who will share insights on preparing both teachers and learners for a digital society. The speaker will be announced shortly.

After the morning coffee break, participants will have the chance to take part in four hands-on interactive workshops covering learning analytics, teacher competences, digital wellbeing, and tackling disinformation. In-person attendees will choose two workshops to attend. Please note that the workshops are only available on-site and cannot be followed remotely.

The afternoon will centre on a panel discussion entitled Teaching Digital Natives: Beyond Digital Skills, bringing together speakers from both projects for an open and wide-ranging conversation. Participants will be able to ask questions live throughout the discussion.

The conference will close with a feedback session and closing remarks, wrapping up a full day of learning and exchange.

Full Programme [\[here\]](#).

Seats are limited for in-person attendance, so we encourage you to register as soon as possible. Online participation is also available, allowing you to follow the opening, keynote, and panel discussion from wherever you are.

We look forward to welcoming you to Brussels, or to your screen, on 22 October. This is your chance to be part of the conversation shaping the future of digital education in Europe.

👉 **Register [\[here\]](#) now!**

Latest news



From Scenarios to Classrooms: DIGITAL FIRST Pilots Across Europe

[Read more](#)



Digital Well-being in the Age of Social Media: Finding Balance in a Connected World

[Read more](#)

Meet our partners



Our project consortium consists of 15 organisations including universities, teacher training centers, primary and secondary schools, NGOs, and a public body from Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, Slovenia, and Spain.

[Read more about our partners](#)

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