# Sinn Féin TD to host meetings on social media challenges for parents and teachers



Darren O’Rourke, Sinn Féin TD for Meath East and the party’s spokesperson on Education and Youth, is set to host a series of public information meetings throughout Meath aimed at assisting teachers and parents in managing the challenges posed by social media and digital literacy for children.

The initiative responds to growing concerns about the role of social media in young people's lives, including issues such as increased screen time, cyberbullying, exploitation, misinformation, and data privacy. These sessions are designed to provide practical advice, expert insights, and resources to support adults in fostering safe and responsible online habits in young people.

The first event will take place on Monday, 12th May, at 7.30pm in the Dunshaughlin Pastoral Centre. This meeting will be delivered by CyberSafeKids, an established organisation dedicated to promoting online safety, and is targeted at teachers, parents, and guardians of secondary school-aged children.

Speaking to LMFM, Deputy O’Rourke explained the rationale behind the meetings: "Teachers and parents are often playing catch-up when it comes to social media and digital trends. These meetings are about giving them the confidence and understanding to engage with their children on these issues. We’ll cover everything from privacy settings and online safety to critical thinking around misinformation and healthy screen time habits."

He added: "As a parent, constituency TD and my party's spokesperson on Education and Youth, I am happy to host these meetings. I think it is an important and necessary thing to do. The sessions will be delivered by CyberSafeKids, the well-established and trusted advocate for online safety, empowering children, parents, and educators to navigate the internet safely and confidently. The meetings will offer practical advice and evidence-based strategies for addressing common concerns."

Attendees will also have the opportunity to engage in an open forum where they can ask questions and share their experiences. Deputy O’Rourke stated his intention to hold further sessions across the Meath East constituency, including meetings aimed specifically at those connected with primary school-aged children.

He highlighted the broader context, saying: "The meetings will be a chance to learn, discuss, and work together to create a safer digital environment for our young people. I’d urge anyone with an interest in this important issue to join us."

Drawing attention to the need for systemic changes, O’Rourke noted: "We also need wholesale reform of regulation of tech companies and our school curriculums. That's something I am also pursuing."

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)