

Child and Youth Services in Germany

1.1.17 Child and youth services and digitalisation

As **digitalisation** advances and becomes a growing presence in the lives of young people as well as in professional activities in the social work field, it **is changing child and youth services** on multiple levels:

- At the first level, digitalisation and digital **experience spaces** have a stark influence on the experiential worlds of children and adolescents. The lines between real and virtual spaces are becoming increasingly blurred.
- At the second level, digitalisation is increasingly forcing programme structures in the various fields to adapt in order to stay relevant to young people's digitalised lifeworlds.
- At the third level, the dawn of the digital age requires statutory and nonstatutory organisations providing child and youth services to rethink approaches to **administration** so as to ensure modern, effective and efficient work and cooperation formats.