



Kingwood City Learning Centre Home Access Briefing Document for Schools

Home Access is a government initiative to provide grants to low-income families with a child or children in years 3-9 to enable them to purchase a computer and internet access at home.

Low-income families with children in **years 3-9** attending a state school England can apply for a Home Access grant to buy one of the following packages:

1. Full package (a computer, one year's internet access, service and support);
2. A computer with service and support only;
3. One year's internet access only.

Grant Applications

Parents who think they qualify for a Home Access grant should call the Home Access Grant Helpline on **0333 200 1004** to get an application form. Successful applicants will receive their grant in the form of a Barclaycard which should be retained after purchase in case of faulty goods.

Home Access Grants & Packages

Packages include technical support, parental controls and guides to e-safety, and are pre-loaded with a suite of assistive technologies, including literacy support, study skills and accessibility options. Some providers are offering additional educational software as part of their package.

Grants cannot be used to purchase peripheral equipment such as printers. Packages can only be purchased in local stores, online and over the telephone from an approved supplier. Approved suppliers are listed on the Home Access website: <http://www.homeaccess.org.uk/Computer-and-internet-packages/Find-a-supplier-near-you/>.

Additional Assistive Technology Packages

Assistive Technology Package One: Eligible families with children who have physical difficulties in accessing a computer or the internet can also select from a range of basic hardware items on the application form which will be supplied at no extra cost.

Assistive Technology Package Two: Learners with needs that cannot be met through this basic provision will be able to apply for an enhanced assistive technology package. This will be available from Summer 2010 but families are encouraged to submit their application as early as possible.

How can schools help?

Schools can help raise awareness of the Home Access Programme with parents and carers of eligible families. A sample letter has been provided for schools to adapt to their own use. Schools may add information to this letter but are asked to ensure that they retain the wording in its entirety and without amendment.

Schools are asked only to target potentially eligible families.

Kingwood CLC has obtained printed copies of the eligibility leaflet (005A_Information leaflet) and posters which will be distributed by the CLC to schools.



Further information can be obtained from the Home Access website: www.homeaccess.org.uk
Schools may also register on the site to download electronic versions of posters, leaflets and other materials to help promote the Home Access Programme.

If you have any further questions regarding the Home Access Programme, please contact Katherine Douglas, Director, Kingwood CLC, either by email: katherine@kingwoodclc.net or by phone: 020 7386 5428.

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