

Government's Digital Inclusion Champion In Spotlight At e-Learning Foundation's Autumn Conference

Bookings open for charity's 'Engaging with Home Access' event

12 August 2009: Martha Lane Fox, internet entrepreneur and the government's digital inclusion champion, will provide an overview of 'Digital Britain' at the e-Learning Foundation's 'Engaging with Home Access' conference in London this autumn.

Lane Fox, founder of lastminute.com, has been tasked with supporting the thousands of people in the UK who are currently not online and at risk of falling into the digital divide. The recently released Digital Britain White Paper highlighted the fact that affordability of internet access is a critical issue for poorer families, preventing them going on the Internet.

"We are delighted to have Martha Lane Fox speak at our autumn conference," commented Valerie Thompson, Chief Executive of the e-Learning Foundation. "Our charity has been working to erase the digital divide in the UK since 2001 and we have continually stressed the importance of home access in a child's studies. Martha will be able to give us an overview of the bigger picture and how we can expect to see digital Britain evolve over the coming years".

Martha Lane Fox will also present the inaugural e-Learning Foundation Awards 2009 at the end of the conference.

Prior to the e-Learning Foundation's autumn event, the Government will have rolled out its national Home Access Programme under which low income families without online access at home will be given a grant to get connected. Schools need to know how to work within this programme. The 'Engaging with Home Access' programme will explain how schools can make the most of this opportunity and support families.

The e-Learning Foundation's 'Engaging with Home Access' Conference will also provide delegates with the knowledge and networking opportunities to move forward from a panel of experts, bedded down school projects and best-in-class practitioners.

Throughout the day there will be opportunities for delegates to ask questions, share experiences and network. In addition, there will be an exhibition floor featuring the latest in technology developments.

The one day 'Engaging with Home Access' conference will take place on Friday 20th November 2009 at One George Street, Westminster, London SW1P 3AA.

To find out more about the conference and to book a place please go to:

<http://www.e-lf.co.uk/autumn-09/> Spaces are limited so it is advisable to book early to avoid disappointment.

End:

Editor's notes:

e-Learning Foundation Affiliated School Scheme:

For schools to benefit from the full range of services from the e-Learning Foundation they must be affiliated. Affiliation is conditional on a school demonstrating compliance with the charity's core values – home access, equity of access regardless of means, sustainable funding through parental contributions and sharing knowledge. Affiliation is £100 for Primary Schools and £200 for Secondary Schools. Benefits include the right to apply for grants, help with fundraising, access to a dedicated public relations team, use of the Donation Management Service which collects regular parental donations on behalf of the school and free advice and support from a team of dedicated School Liaison Managers.

About the e-Learning Foundation

E-learning Foundation:

The e-Learning Foundation was launched in 2001, to ensure that every schoolchild in the UK should have home access to learning technologies when and where they want to learn.

The Foundation, a registered charity, aims to bridge the digital divide and ensure that all children, irrespective of their background, can have the same access to technology for learning at home as their better off peers.

The Foundation is funded through the public, private and third sector in the form of Government grants, commercial sponsorship, grants and donations.

www.e-learningfoundation.com

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