



Local Authority Membership

The Government's Home Access programme is due to be rolled out nationwide by Becta in the autumn. The e-Learning Foundation currently provides advice, support and grants to a network of over 400 schools in just under 100 Local Authorities. Our focus is on addressing the digital divide and **universal** home access, and so we expect to play an active role helping schools and Local Authorities make the most of the new programme. This will be of particular interest to schools that are already active in providing pupils with devices, with the help of the parents, as well as schools that see the Home Access programme as an opportunity to achieve universal access at the school.

We anticipate a growth in the level of queries from both schools and Local Authorities and we know that the Minister has already written to Children's Services Directors explaining the opportunity to aggregate Home Access grants at a Local Authority level. We understand only a small number applied but that is not to say Local Authorities don't wish to be involved in other ways.

It therefore seems appropriate that we now engage more formally with Local Authorities who anticipate playing either an operational or strategic role in the Home Access agenda in the autumn. Our introduction of a membership scheme will allow us to support Local Authorities in their development of Home Access plans in exchange for a small annual membership fee which as a charity is vital to cover the costs incurred in responding to requests for advice and information.

Membership will provide Local Authorities with a number of benefits:

- Provision of advice on the Home Access programme, including aggregation by Local Authorities and Schools, and how to extend that to achieve universal access. In addition to unlimited telephone and e-mail advice, we will provide one free visit from our advisory team per year.
- Automatic grants alerts to help you keep your schools informed about how to apply into our grants process to help them extend access to more poor (but ineligible for a Home Access grant) families.
- A regular e-newsletter that keeps you in the picture on developments in Home Access.
- Two discounted places at each of our bi-annual conferences; the next one, "Engaging with Home Access" is on 20th November at 1 Great George Street in Westminster.
- Regular reports on how many schools within your authority are actively involved with home access programmes with us.
- Support on running workshops for LA staff and school staff (price to be agreed) on home access and overcoming the digital divide.

The price of membership is as follows:

Local Authorities with less than 200 schools - £300 p.a.

Local Authorities with 200+ Schools - £500 p.a.

Please also note that schools will be required to affiliate separately



Local Authority Membership Application

Local Authority: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Main Contact: _____

Position: _____

Tel: _____

Email Address: _____

Number of schools within your Local Authority: _____

We are registering with less than 200 schools at £300 p.a.

We are registering with 200+ Schools - £500 p.a.

I understand that schools will be required to affiliate separately

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
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Signed: _____ Date: _____