



Dear [TITLE] [LAST],

### Welcome to our spring 2011 e-Learning Foundation newsletter

In our last Newsletter we talked about the uncertainty that schools faced and how that made planning extra difficult. Many schools are still awaiting confirmation of their budgets for the coming year, and also clarification over whether the Pupil Premium really is extra funding to help schools address the attainment gap and disadvantaged pupils.

Despite this we have never been busier supporting schools who are keen to make the most the benefits of technology, achieve 1:1 provision of devices within an e-learning programme, take advantage of some of the very low prices that leading suppliers are offering to schools, engage with their parents to help financially underpin the investment needed and in some cases make the most of leasing with big capital budget cuts round the corner.

We will launch the next grants round at the end of March if you have a small funding gap so make sure your affiliation is up to date. And we have been working hard to get your families some good deals for their mobile Internet service. Many of your families who benefitted from the years free Internet service under the Home Access programme that kicked off in January 2010 will be wondering what to do when the time expires, so do make sure you help them take advantage of the deals we have negotiated.

If you are planning for a September start to your 1:1 programme then now is the time to get in touch. We look forward to helping you plan your programme and hope to see you at our May conference where we have an amazing line-up of speakers to inspire you!

### become an affiliate

join the growing number of schools benefitting from support and advice  
click for more details

### GRANTS 2011

A new grants round for affiliated schools will be launched in March 2011  
affiliate now

### money giving

With no government funding we are working harder than ever to raise funds for our cause. Your donation will make a difference

### giftaid it

Gift Aid changes  
From April 6th the Government is reducing Gift Aid by 11%, from 28.2% to 25%.

### Support us by buying our Special badges



### Special offers exclusive to affiliated schools



### and now joined by:



affiliate today and your school can take advantage of these very special offers.



### A compelling case...

"Pupils' work is improving three times faster than usual". "Pupils made seven times as many improvements to their work as they normally do."

If you would like your school to be able to make statements that the way you are using ICT with the pupils is creating double or treble the learning activity (or more!), then join in with those schools who are creating 'Compelling case' studies. These kinds of statements are coming from a new approach to looking at the impact of ICT - analysis of how learning activity is changed through use of ICT and 'reverse engineering' of the evidence from teachers' observations of improvements.

> [Read more](#)



### Leadership challenges

### Spring conference – May 25th - London

Is the potential of learning technology at the heart of your school improvement plans?

Schools have to adapt to a changing environment with increases in devolved responsibility allied with tighter budgets. Strong leadership will ensure schools get the returns they need from their ICT spend through improving standards and addressing the attainment gap and the digital divide.

The conference boasts an impressive line-up of speakers including: Rt. Hon. Baroness Morris, Prof. Stephen Heppell, Dr Peter Twining and Russell Prue. The day will prove an invaluable aid to leading your school through the challenges of budget reform while embracing technology to engage all pupils to ensure they reach their potential. It will also offer a new approach to teacher CPD.

> [Book your place now](#)



### Home Access comes of age

The Government's Home Access programme started in January 2010 and many families were supplied with 12 month internet contracts, so they are due to expire over the coming months. Internet providers like T-Mobile and Three are able to provide parents with the opportunity to stay online at affordable rates being made available to schools affiliated to the e-Learning Foundation. See story in this newsletter.

> [Affiliate now](#)



### Get the app!

Don't forget that you can turn every pound you spend online into funds for the e-Learning Foundation and it won't cost you a penny! If you are thinking about booking your summer holiday, buying your weekly groceries or the latest bestseller, when you Give as you Live™, a portion of every purchase is sent to us at the e-Learning Foundation at no additional cost to you.

> [Read more](#)



### The e-Learning Foundation working with Three

Families can now get onto the Internet at home using a pre-paid 3 mobile dongle for the equivalent of less than £2.50 a week. The e-Learning Foundation has joined up with mobile phone operator Three to help our affiliated schools support families where children don't currently have access to Broadband at home or their Home Access contract is about to expire.

> [Read more](#)



### Keep taking the Tablets

The Longfield Academy maxim "Achieving Excellence Together" continues with new partner of choice, the Apple iPad Tablet. The new Academy building is due to open in June 2011 and will launch their new e-Learning Programme to parents and students...

> [Read more](#)



### Time to affiliate

Affiliation expires at the end of March and schools will be able to renew in time for the next grants round by responding to a renewal notice due to go out very soon.

Along with the advice and support of our School Liaison Team, affiliation brings with it access to supplier offers, including a means of keeping families online whose Home Access internet is about to run out, discounted conference rates and of course an opportunity to apply a grant. For a very modest sum your school can benefit from all of these services – and help the e-Learning Foundation to continue to offer its services.

> [Affiliate now](#)



### Tablet war

Since the launch of the iPad in April 2010 the market has seen a flood of alternative devices launched by Apple's competitors. Notable products include the [Samsung Galaxy](#), the [Toshiba Folio 100](#) and the [Novatech n Tablet](#) + a raft of others.

Although pricing on all tablets remains high it is inevitable that they will fall as new models are launched and competition heats up. Currently the iPad continues to hold the top slot on quality of image and popularity but for many schools it remains out of reach because of price and lacks the flexibility to integrate within their infrastructure. This may change in the future however, watch this space...

