

20<sup>th</sup> January 2010

**Re. Free Laptop & Web Access – Home Access PC/Internet Grant**

I am pleased to be able to write to you about the Government's new scheme targeted at those who either don't have a computer or web access at home.

The Government has made a grant available of up to £528 for families on low income with children living in England targeted at those without access to the internet at home.

Depending on your need, you can get up to £528 to spend on a computer (laptop, desktop, netbook and one year's web access). Many retailers operate this scheme including mainstream providers such as Comet, Phones4u and Misco. Before you make any purchase, ask the retailer if they are part of the scheme.

***Who is eligible?***

- You need children in Years 3 to 9. This will normally mean ages 7 to 14.
- It's for families with lower incomes. There are a number of tests for this, generally speaking if your child qualifies for free school meals or you receive income support, income-based JSA, child tax credit, an income lower than £16,040, it's worth checking out.

The scheme is targeted at those who either don't have a computer or don't have web access.

***How many people can get it?***

The scheme is due to run for the next 18 months but there is a maximum of 270,000 grants available, one per household. There are currently no plans to extend it across the rest of the UK.

***How to apply?***

Call 0333 200 1004 or check details at [Home Access. http://www.homeaccess.org.uk/](http://www.homeaccess.org.uk/)

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

**L.A. Wallis (Mrs)**

**Human Resources and Operations**

Executive Principal - Mr John Murphy

Principal - Mr David Millar

Homefield Road, Old Coulsdon, Surrey, CR5 1ES

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