

Part of **Education and childcare during coronavirus**

Guidance

**Get help with technology during coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Guidance for local authorities, academy trusts and schools on devices and support available to provide remote education and access to children’s social care.

Published 19 April 2020  
 Last updated 7 August 2020 — [see all updates](#)  
 From: [Department for Education](#)

Applies to: **England**

- Contents
- [Get laptops and tablets for children who cannot attend school due to coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
  - [Manage laptops, tablets and 4G wireless routers received from the DfE](#)
  - [Get internet access for vulnerable and disadvantaged children](#)
  - [Apply for a grant and support to get set up with a digital education platform](#)
  - [Get peer-to-peer support on the effective use of technology in academy trusts and schools](#)

The Department for Education (DfE) is providing a range of support through its Get help with technology programme.

**Get laptops and tablets for children who cannot attend school due to coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Between May and July 2020, the DfE provided [laptops, tablets and 4G wireless routers](#) to local authorities and academy trusts for children, families and young adults most in need.

For the 2020 to 2021 academic year, more laptops and tablets have been made available for disadvantaged children in certain year groups who are affected by disruption to face to face education at their school, or have been advised to [shield because they are clinically extremely vulnerable](#).

[This guidance](#) provides information for schools, trusts and local authorities about how to apply.

**Manage laptops, tablets and 4G wireless routers received from the DfE**

The DfE [provided devices to local authorities and academy trusts](#) between May and July 2020. These are being distributed to families, children and young adults most in need, who did not have access to them through another source, such as their school.

Devices will help children and young people to access remote education. These devices will also help to provide access to social care and other services to support safety and wellbeing.

[Technical guidance is available](#) to provide staff at local authorities, academy trusts and schools with information about online safety, mobile device management, warranties, and how to contact a support desk.

**Get internet access for vulnerable and disadvantaged children**

Internet access supports remote education, as well as virtual contact between children, their social workers and other services.

In addition to the [4G wireless routers already provided](#), the DfE is running [2 pilot schemes for increasing vulnerable and disadvantaged children’s internet access](#): one giving free access to BT wifi hotspots, and another raising data allowances on mobile devices.

**Apply for a grant and support to get set up with a digital education platform**

Schools can apply for government-funded support through [The Key for School Leaders](#) and access one of two free-to-use digital education platforms: G Suite for Education or Office 365 Education. The Key also provides feature comparison and case studies on how schools are making the most of these platforms, to help applicants make the most appropriate choice for their school.

**Get peer-to-peer support on the effective use of technology in academy trusts and schools**

Organisations can use the [EdTech Demonstrator Programme](#) to contact a network of schools and colleges who are already using remote education technology resources for help and support.

Read the other guidance on [remote education during coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

Read other guidance on [social care during coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

Published 19 April 2020  
 Last updated 7 August 2020 + [show all updates](#)

Explore the topic

- [School procurement](#)
- [School curriculum and teaching during coronavirus](#)

Is this page useful?  Yes  No Is there anything wrong with this page?

**Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance and support](#)

**Services and information**

- [Benefits](#)
- [Education and learning](#)
- [Births, deaths, marriages and care](#)
- [Employing people](#)
- [Business and self-employed](#)
- [Environment and countryside](#)
- [Childcare and parenting](#)
- [Housing and local services](#)
- [Citizenship and living in the UK](#)
- [Money and tax](#)
- [Crime, justice and the law](#)
- [Passports, travel and living abroad](#)
- [Disabled people](#)
- [Visas and immigration](#)
- [Driving and transport](#)
- [Working, jobs and pensions](#)

**The UK has left the EU**

[Check the new rules for January 2021](#)

**Departments and policy**

- [How government works](#)
- [Departments](#)
- [Worldwide](#)
- [Services](#)
- [Guidance and regulation](#)
- [News and communications](#)
- [Research and statistics](#)
- [Policy papers and consultations](#)
- [Transparency and freedom of information releases](#)

