



XMA strides away with success in Home Access pilot

XMA has supplied over 5,500 learners with laptops through the Government's Home Access programme.



Home Access is a new government drive to get more families using computers and the internet at home. The pilot programme began in February and ended in June 2009 in the pilot regions of Oldham and Suffolk. Grants were available for low-income families living in the pilot areas via an application process through the local authorities.

As one of the approved suppliers for the pilot scheme XMA worked closely with Becta and both local authorities involved. During the pilot programme over 12,000 grants were issued and redeemed and XMA supplied over 5,500 laptops to the successful applicants.

Bob Pigott, Programme Director for Home Access says: *"We are very pleased with the success of the pilot phase, and we look forward to continuing this with the National rollout starting from December 09. We are already receiving great feedback from the families using the equipment for online learning, and early feedback from the local authorities and schools in the area is very positive."*



XMA partnered with O2 to offer 24 months mobile broadband connectivity with either of its product bundles. Its most popular product by far was the Toshiba L300, an ideal 15.4" widescreen laptop for childrens' education needs. The L300 model won the What Laptop Gold Award presented by What Laptop in September 2008. XMA's other product bundle was made up of the Toshiba NB100 netbook. A fashionable product, ideal for mobile users and smaller children. An optical drive was also supplied with this product, all for £600.

XMA offered its customers a year of full technical support by its own technical team at its offices in Nottingham. The support line is the first point of contact for advice on the products, technical queries about the computer and general information about the Home Access programme. XMA is experienced in offering Helpdesk Support to end-users as it has been instrumental in both the Computers for Pupils (CfP) and Laptops for Teachers (Lft) programmes where it offered similar services.

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XMA, as an Infrastructure Services Framework partner is a leading supplier to education and holds the majority of accreditations for the Education sector. XMA is the leading education reseller for Toshiba in the UK and has partnered with Toshiba for over 20 years investing in solutions to enhance learning. Toshiba is renowned for its quality and reliability which makes it the number one choice for many educational establishments.



Len Daniels, Sales Manager - Education at Toshiba says, *"We were delighted to work with XMA on the Home Access pilot programme. With the commitment that both XMA and Toshiba have shown to the education sector for many years, it was no surprise that XMA were successful in getting over 5,500 users online in order to assist the Government in meeting its policy of wanting all UK learners between the ages of 7 to 18 to have access to learning wherever they are. We look forward to our continuing relationship with XMA in Education".*

For more details about XMA and Home Access visit www.xma4education.co.uk or call our dedicated Home Access Sales Manager — Kavita Chauhan at Kavita.chauhan@xma.co.uk or call 07806 298810.



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