# Dear Colleague,

I am writing to provide an update about LGfL's response to COVID-19. We are conscious of the huge pressures on schools, teachers and pupils and I've been asked by many heads and teachers for more help and support. This briefing updates you on the latest developments and how we are aiming to help schools now and in the future.

## **DEVICES FOR CHILDREN & SAVING SCHOOLS MILLIONS OF POUNDS**

There is an urgent need to ensure that children have access to devices, particularly those that are disadvantaged.

To save schools money and deliver continuity of education provision, LGfL has tendered for up to 2 million devices including Chromebooks, Winbooks and iPads. To our knowledge, this is the biggest ever procurement of devices undertaken in the Education sector. More information about the initiative (#BridgeTheDivide) can be found at: devices.lgfl.net along with a short introductory video.

LGfL is delighted to announce that as a result of **#BridgeTheDivide** the prices of Chromebooks and Winbooks have dropped dramatically starting at around £125 for an entry level device and around £165 for an intermediate device (although prices may fluctuate due to factors such as the Exchange Rate). These prices represent a significant saving over current market prices,

LGfL launched the results **#BridgetheDivide** on Friday and we have received requests for thousands of devices already from schools who have filled out the enquiry form on <u>devices.lgfl.net</u>. If you place your order as soon as possible, it is more than likely you will receive your devices before the start of the new academic year. In addition, there will be options to expedite orders.

## OTHER LGfL KEY INITIATIVES TO HELP SCHOOLS

## **4G AND WIFI DONGLES**

By the end of June, we will have bulk procured 4G and Wi-Fi dongles and expect similarly large discounts to be made available to schools. Further details about accessing these devices will be sent out to you shortly.

#### FREE BANDWIDTH UPGRADES FOR CLOUD

LGfL schools are receiving a free bandwidth upgrade that means you will have the capacity to access more services in the Cloud as well as benefitting from improved security. This project is called Pledge 2020. Nearly 2000 LGfL schools have been upgraded so far and the work is continuing over the summer and autumn to make sure schools have the capacity to support huge increases in the use of cloud platforms.

### HELP WITH BEST PRACTICES IN REMOTE LEARNING

LGfL is working in partnership with the DfE and is the Lead Delivery partner for the Remote Learning National Demonstrator programme. This initiative is identifying and sharing best practices in Remote Learning and providing peer support and advice for schools. More information at <a href="editech-demonstrator.lgfl.net">editech-demonstrator.lgfl.net</a>

#### IMPROVEMENTS IN REMOTE ACCESS

All LGfL schools receive secure remote access as part of the service. During COVID a new service, Freedom2Roam, has been launched which is now being used by tens of thousands of users every day. If you are not already using the platform and would like further information or support to enable it, please contact the LGfL helpdesk at <a href="mailto:support.lgfl.net">support.lgfl.net</a> or via phone on 020 8255 5555 and select option 3 and we will assist you.

## FILTERING & SAFEGUARDS AT HOME.

LGfL is field trialling a new filtering service (HOMEPROTECT) that will be launched over the summer term. This has been built on the same technology we're using already but will be different in that it has been designed for filtering at home. More information at homeprotect.lgfl.net

#### **HELPING SCHOOLS WITH CLOUD**

LGfL will be setting up a new service (CLOUDSQUAD) to help schools with their migration to the Cloud and how to make best use of it. This will be included as part of the LGfL subscription and will be in place for the Autumn term. Further details will be sent to schools over the summer.

## SAVE MORE MONEY WITH LGfL.

LGfL schools are entitled to a range of bundled products such as Sophos protection, Malwarebytes, Adobe Creative Cloud and Meraki. Even by using only a fraction of the products available your school could save thousands of pounds and perhaps more than the cost of the LGfL service. Information on how much your school can save is available at <a href="mailto:savings.lgfl.net">savings.lgfl.net</a>

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

VfM Devices for Children: devices.lgfl.net (#BridgeTheDivide)

Saving Money with LGfL: <a href="mailto:savings.lgfl.net">savings.lgfl.net</a>

Setting up Remote Working: Contact the LGfL helpdesk at support.lgfl.net or via

phone on 020 8255 5555 and select option 3

Remote Learning Demonstrator Programme: edtech-demonstrator.lgfl.net

Free Bandwidth Upgrade : Richard.Hannah@lgfl.net (Pledge 2020)

LGfL News and Developments : www.ngfl.net

Finally, if there is anything else we can do to help you then please do not hesitate to contact me. LGfL is your charity and it is here to serve your needs.

Yours sincerely,