

Getting to Know Gigabit

What does high-speed internet mean to you?

Invitation to take part in research to help the Government improve internet quality and availability for everyone

Hello!

I am writing to you as your child's school is a recipient of a grant from Rural Gigabit Connectivity programme to upgrade to full-fibre internet.

I am a researcher investigating the impacts that high-speed internet brings rural communities. I would like to learn about the place where you live and what difference high-speed internet could make to the community. I am writing to ask your permission for your child to take part in a series of activities to learn about their experience and awareness of broadband.

Getting to Know Gigabit

I bring a creative toolbox approach to research. So, instead of an online survey to learn more about you and what connectivity means to you, I am asking your child to take part in activities to share their knowledge and to show the local area in the context of what broadband can bring. This will be for me to learn about what improved connectivity means specifically for your area through the eyes of the people living there.

The approach is a 4 part activity series with primary pupils to gather data on their experiences with broadband. These activities will be facilitated by the class teacher. For this, over 4 weeks pupils will assume the roles of

a) Researcher

Internet use and functionality (either at home or school) and rural areas

b) Engineer

Understanding and awareness of the internet and how it works

c) Designer

Future consideration for how broadband could be used (in the school/ community)

d) Communicator

How this information can be used and shared with other school pupils, within the education sector and beyond

The data collected will be the pupils' words, drawings and ideas generated through each activity. This data will be analysed to develop an understanding of how the pupils and their community see broadband making a difference to their local area.

As a research incentive, each child is offered a £10 book token for their time. I hope you will be interested in your child taking part and I am very happy to answer any questions/ any suggestions. Please complete this consent form to agree to your child's work outputs being included in the research.

Dr Marion Lean

Design Research,
UK Fibre Programmes

marion.lean@dcms.gov.uk
07341134726