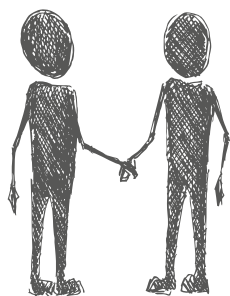


Exploring the challenge of adequate digital access for all children and young people

Background for the *Digital Access for All initiative* • Read the full report at <http://bit.ly/DAFASwitchedOn>



Digital access must be available to all children and young people



In 2018, of all households in Great Britain, **10% do not have access** to the internet.¹

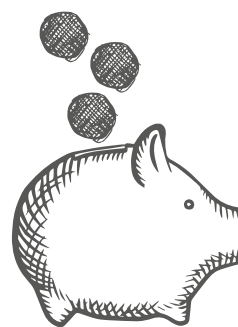


700,000 11–18 year olds (12%) have no home internet access from a computer or tablet.

A further **60,000 11–18 year olds** do not have any home internet access at all.²



12% of rural premises in the UK cannot access even a basic fixed broadband service.³



Digital access must be affordable



2.7 million children live in low income families.⁴



The average household monthly spend on communications services is **£124.62**.⁵



Around **one in ten adults** have had difficulty paying for communications services; this is highest among younger consumers and those with long-term mental illness.⁶



36% of 16–24 year olds live in mobile-only households.⁷

Disadvantages of no digital access⁸

- ➔ Poorer health outcomes
- ➔ Lower life expectancy
- ➔ Increased loneliness
- ➔ Less access to jobs and education
- ➔ Paying more for essentials
- ➔ Risk of falling into poverty
- ➔ Lack of voice and visibility

1 Office for National Statistics, 2018. Internet access – households and individuals, Great Britain: 2018.
2 Lloyds Bank, 2018. UK Consumer Digital Index, London: Lloyds Bank.
3 Ofcom, 2018. Access and Inclusion 2018, London: Ofcom.
4 National Statistics, D. f. W. a. P., 2018. Households below average income: 1994/95 to 2016/17.

5 Ofcom, 2018. Communications Market Report, London: Ofcom.
6 Ofcom, 2018. Access and Inclusion 2018, London: Ofcom.
7 Cebr, 2018. The economic impact of Digital Inclusion in the UK, London: Cebr.
8 Good Things Foundation <https://www.goodthingsfoundation.org/areas-of-work/digital-inclusion>



Switched On



DIGITAL ACCESS
FOR ALL

CarnegieUK
TRUST

CHANGING MINDS • CHANGING LIVES

Exploring the challenge of adequate digital access for all children and young people

Background for the *Digital Access for All initiative* • Read the full report at <http://bit.ly/DAFASwitchedOn>



Digital access requires digital skills



11.3 million people lack the basic digital skills they need to participate fully in our digital economy.¹



21% of the UK population lack at least one Basic Digital Skill.²



There are as many as **300,000 young people** (aged 15–25) in the UK who still lack basic digital skills.³



Digital access requires awareness of privacy and safety issues



53% of young people aged 12–15 think they can easily delete information they have posted about themselves.⁴



40% of disadvantaged young people struggle to make decisions about their own online behaviour and safety.⁵



1/3 of 15 year olds have sent a naked photo of themselves at least once.⁶



Over a third of 12–15s have seen hateful content online.⁷

Advantages of digital access

- ➔ Access to a wide range of services from booking of medical appointment to finding out library opening times
- ➔ Help with school work / the ability to complete school work
- ➔ Access to job market
- ➔ Other training, learning and development opportunities
- ➔ Connection with resources and virtual communities around particular health conditions, life experiences or specific interests
- ➔ Connection with peers via social networks

1 Cebr, 2018. *The economic impact of Digital Inclusion in the UK*, London: Cebr.
2 Lloyds
3 The Tech Partnership, 2017. *Basic Digital Skills UK Report: summary of findings*
4 Ofcom, 2017. *Ofcom Media Literacy Tracker 2017 – Children aged 5-15 and parents*, London: Ofcom.

5 Helsper, E., Smirnova, S., 2016. *Slipping Through the Net*, London: The Prince's Trust.
6 Children's Commissioner for England, 2017. *Growing Up Digital*, London: Children's Commissioner for England.
7 Children's Commissioner for England, 2017. *Growing Up Digital*, London: Children's Commissioner for England.