

2nd February 2021

SUBJECT: FREE Educational Internet Access for Disadvantaged Pupils

Dear parent/ carer,

As I'm sure you will know, our staff at Risedale have been working tirelessly to try and enable as many pupils as possible to gain access to an electronic device, such as a laptop/Chromebook, to use at home to complete their online learning during lockdown.

Over the past 6 months, Risedale has invested over £50,000 in devices for pupils and, if we can secure funding, are looking to increase this to ensure no pupil is left behind. We thank you for your support and kind words of gratitude as we continue to help as many families as possible.

Although we have been able to support many families with devices, the issue of internet access has been a much more complex one. We are pleased to let you know that Tesco Mobile, EE and BT have now acknowledged this problem and may be able to help by providing FREE Wifi or mobile data to our most disadvantaged pupils.

How to apply: Each company has various criteria that must be met to identify those most in need and it's our job at Risedale is to act as the link. So, if you are struggling and in a position where you are not able to provide internet access for your child's school work then please do contact us. Your details will be passed onto Mr Kirkbride who will call you and have a chat to see if you meet the criteria and then hopefully put your name forward. Please ring the school or email Mr Kirkbride directly kirkbride.m@risedale.org.uk.

We do need to be clear that it is ultimately the decision of the individual companies as to which families/pupils they are able to help and the school does not accept any responsibility for the decisions made by them.

Please know, the Risedale Family is always here for you and will always try our utmost to find ways to support you and your child so no one is left behind.

If you are in need please do let us know - we're here for you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Kirkbride

Chromebook Project Coordinator and Head of Design Technology

