

Helping to Learn

Enable us give
laptops to children
in need in West
Lancashire



Do you have old & unused laptops or tablets that we could re-purpose to support students' digital learning?

SHARES Lancashire, supported by Virtue Technologies Ltd want to help more pupils access digital learning resources.

A not-for-profit organisation, SHARES are a cluster of 24 schools in West Lancashire, that work together for the betterment of children and families. An education-focused IT company, Virtue Technologies already support several SHARES schools and are keen to help them support more students with remote learning.

In this latest lockdown, schools are teaching in a hybrid fashion. While schools remain open to keyworker children, the National Curriculum is being taught to the rest of their pupils through Google Classroom, Office 365 and other web-based resources to children at home.

This means students who live in a house with no device or internet; or a house with one laptop being shared between several people, are being seriously affected, and they're getting left behind.

We know that business can help. Your old IT hardware can go to these families.

Send us your devices. It doesn't matter how old they are, as long as they're in working order. Virtue will data wipe your device to HMG IS5 (Infosec Standard 5). Once the hard drive has been wiped, they'll install a new operating system and SHARES Lancashire will deliver the device to a child who can't currently get online for virtual lessons.

SHARES Lancashire also want to provide 4G dongles so children who need them can get connected online. If you can help with this, either by providing dongles or data please get in touch.

To donate your devices:

info@shareslancashire.co.uk

01695 729 897

Device Collection

SHARES Lancashire will collect devices (in West Lancashire or nearby), and Virtue will then data wipe and install new software on those devices so SHARES Lancashire can then distribute those devices to students who need them.

We'll co-ordinate collection of your IT equipment, contact info@shareslancashire.co.uk or call **01695 729 897**.

To give you peace-of-mind and for GDPR compliance, we'd advise you wipe devices ahead of collection. But if you don't or don't know how, don't worry Virtue will wipe them for you.

In terms of data security, Virtue Technologies have all the necessary accreditations. They deal with security, backups and keeping confidential data secure, for schools and local councils. All data on any devices donated will be destroyed.

Help Us by Donating & Spreading the Word

If you know of any other businesses in our area, or you network with business leaders, please share this leaflet with them.

We'll also be sharing our donation request online, via social media. We'd love it if when you see this, you can like and share our posts so we can get the word out to as many local businesses as possible.

Help us support local students and their families.



@SHARES_Lancs
@Virtue_Tech



/company/shares/
/company/virtue-technologies-limited



/shareslancs
/VirtueTechnologies



Questions

What devices can you accept?

Any laptop or tablet with its charger/power cable or a desktop PC as long as it's in good working order.

We want to get devices to students as quickly as possible, so we do need kit that's still working fine.

Is my device too old?

As long as it still works, donate it!

Should I include any information with my device?

If you haven't wiped and reset your device, we'll need any device passwords, and to know who you are.

So we can keep track of your device & let you know where it has gone

What happens to my laptop once I've donated it?

Your devices will be data wiped to HMG IS5, and tablets will have all their data erased and are factory reset. Once the hard drive's been wiped, equipment upgraded and a new operating system installed, the device is safety checked and then delivered to a child who can't currently get online for virtual lessons.

How do I know my personal information will be deleted properly?

We take our responsibility to safely handle your device and any information on it extremely seriously. All devices are securely stored and wiped using the highest standard security software available.

Are you making a profit?

Virtue Technologies, a Skelmersdale-based specialist IT company, will ensure the wiping, installing and distribution of all donated devices is cost-neutral. They're working with SHARES Lancashire to ensure all operating system and software licenses are also provided not-for-profit.

How do you decide who gets my donated device?

SHARES Lancashire will issue the devices to their schools who'll then pass them to families who don't currently have digital access. This will ensure devices go where they're most needed.

What happens to my device after lockdown?

SHARES will allocate devices to schools so it's the school's who'll determine; how long devices will remain with the original recipients, when they'll be returned, or if they'll be given to another student.