



Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology



Easy
Read

Our digital inclusion action plan



Easy Read



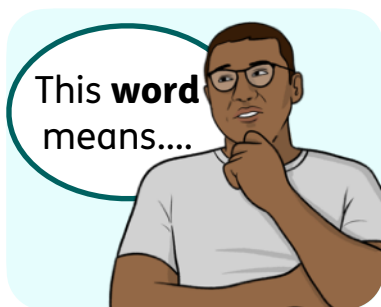
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



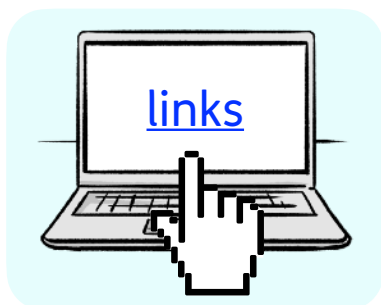
This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



[Blue and underlined](#) words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

What is in this booklet

Words you may not know	4
About this booklet	6
Understanding digital inclusion	7
About our plan	10
The future.....	15

Words you may not know



This booklet uses a few hard words that you may not have heard before.

Here is what some of these words mean to help you understand this booklet better:



Innovation - this means coming up with new ideas or ways of working to make life better for everyone.



Technology - this is computer programmes and equipment that help people, like phones, computers, laptops and the internet.



Digital exclusion - this is when some people cannot get or use the same technology as others.



Digital inclusion - this means everyone can get and use the technology they need.

About this booklet



Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology

This booklet is from the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology.



We are the part of the UK Government that works on anything that has to do with science, technology and innovation.



This booklet is an Easy Read copy of our digital inclusion plan.

Understanding digital inclusion

Digital inclusion



Remember, **digital inclusion** means everyone can get and use the technology they need.

Some examples of this include when:



- Everyone has the skills and training they need to use the internet or their technology.



- Everyone has a good internet connection.



- Everyone can get the right technology they need, like a laptop or smartphone.

Some more examples of digital inclusion include when:

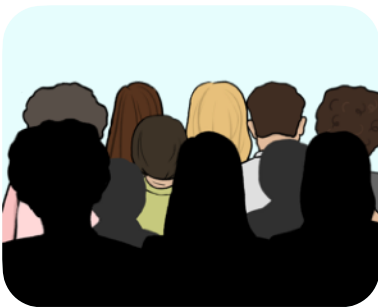


- Everyone can get support and access to digital services.



- Everyone can use the internet or technology, and know how to find help.

Why is digital inclusion important?



Lots of people in the UK struggle with digital exclusion.

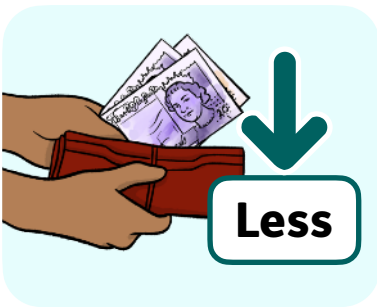


We want more people in the UK to be digitally included.

We have found out that digitally included people are more likely to:



- Have better health than others.



- Pay less money for the everyday items they need.



- Have a job.

About our plan



Our digital inclusion plan explains how we will help more people get and use the technology they need.

We want to help:



- Young people who cannot get or use the technology they need to do well in school.



- Older people who cannot get or use the technology they need for online services.



- Disabled people whose needs are not being met because they cannot get or use the technology they need.

We also want to help:



- People who are struggling to find a job because they cannot get or use technology.



- People who do not have enough money to pay for internet.



Our plan has 5 **actions**.

Actions are like goals. They are the things that we want to do.

Action 1



We will set up a **fund** for digital inclusion.

A **fund** is a set amount of money that should only be spent on 1 thing.



The money from the fund will only be spent on supporting local projects that help people get and use technology.

Action 2



We will learn more about what skills people need to use the internet safely.

Action 3



We will work with the Digital Poverty Alliance to test out a new project.



This new project will involve giving government laptops that are not being used to people who need them.

Action 4



We will make online government services easier to use.

Action 5

We will collect more information to find out:



- What helps to improve digital inclusion.



- Which groups of people struggle with digital exclusion the most.



- Why it is good to teach people how to use technology for life and work.

The future



The 5 actions in our plan are just the start of what we plan to do.



In the future, we will be working with other organisations to carry on improving digital inclusion in the UK.

In the future, we will be focusing on:



1. Teaching more people the skills they need to use technology.



2. Helping more people who cannot get internet or any type of technology.

In the future, we will also be focusing on:



3. Making it easier for people to use services that are online.



4. Helping people to feel more confident when using technology.

How can you help?



We want to know what you think about our work on digital inclusion.



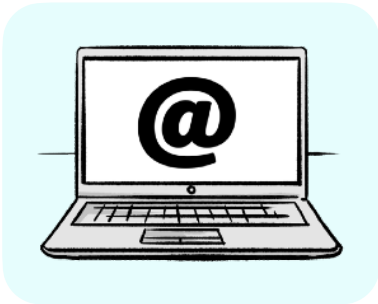
This will help us to know what we are doing well and how we could improve.

You can tell us what you think about our work by either:



- Filling in this online **survey**:
www.gov.uk/government/calls-for-evidence/digital-inclusion-action-plan

A **survey** is a set of questions for you to answer.



- Emailing:
digitalinclusion@dsit.gov.uk



- Sending a letter to:
Digital Inclusion and Skills Unit
Department for Science, Innovation,
and Technology
22-26 Whitehall
Westminster
London
SW1A 2EG