

Schools

January 2009

Achieve best value

How are you investing in Next Generation Learning?



Becta leading
next generation
learning

Investing well in ICT helps schools:

- achieve better value through technology that meets established standards for education
- improve learning outcomes through the deployment of effective ICT technologies
- secure affordable and sustainable technology over the long term
- identify the most appropriate and cost-effective level of technical support
- achieve safe and secure access to information and learning resources
- establish more effective ways of handling and communicating information
- develop a robust and flexible route to personalising learning
- develop capabilities to extend learning beyond the classroom.

Technology for learning – make your investment count

The way you deploy and use technology should be part of your educational vision for the school and reflect its ethos and preferred teaching and learning styles.

Work with your local authority to plan for success with ICT investment, thinking about:

- what you want to achieve
- how you want to achieve it
- what solutions are on offer that are relevant to your needs
- your infrastructure, budget and capabilities
- your options for aggregated procurement – buying in partnership.

Last but not least, think about how new technologies can contribute to personalising learning.



Achieve best value:

www.becta.org.uk/achievebestvalue

Becta's role in helping schools achieve best value

Leadership

Becta is the UK authority for best-value purchasing of high quality tools, resources and services in technology for learning.

Advice

We provide excellent advice to help schools and local authorities decide what they want to achieve and how to benefit from collaboration, and to help them buy high quality products and services.

Guidance

We recommend that you use our procurement arrangements and functional specifications to consider all the options and purchase a solution, based on established standards, that's right for your learners' needs.

Savings

Schools and colleges have saved over £180 million since 2002 by using Becta's purchasing arrangements, which offer value for money and save time in procurement.

Our aim is to ensure that you get the best possible solutions for the best possible price. To save time, effort and money, we recommend that schools do not purchase individually but as part of a larger group such as a local authority, regional broadband consortium (RBC) or purchasing organisation.

Throughout all our work, Becta is trying to promote a dynamic teaching and learning environment that transforms the way education is delivered.

Plan to buy quality, fit-for-purpose technology, with the right support, at the right price

Take advantage of Becta's range of procurement arrangements

Becta's procurement frameworks follow and promote best practice. Becta monitors suppliers for performance and value throughout the life of the framework. Suppliers therefore offer assured value for money for the long term.

Our procurement frameworks offer a simplified and shorter purchasing route that ensures EU compliance. When you are purchasing technology, we provide guidance, support and:

- a list of approved suppliers who understand the needs of schools
- products and services delivered at high standards, evaluated by Becta
- consistent and robust contractual terms with controlled local flexibility
- ongoing business and technical monitoring of suppliers
- better value from purchases through aggregation of demands.

Buying infrastructure services

Use the Infrastructure Services Framework to purchase products and services from suppliers who understand the needs of education, therefore:

- reducing the technical burden on your school
- increasing the reliability of technology
- reducing time spent on technology management and support
- establishing predictable costs to help you plan over time
- reducing risks, through a service-based approach.

Buying learning platform services

The Learning Platform Services Framework enables you to purchase robust and flexible learning platforms from a range of approved suppliers. The solutions offered should meet the standards to deliver a cost-effective and reliable learning space that can:

- ensure all learning resources are effectively managed
- deliver flexible access for all learners and teaching staff
- facilitate the provision of personalised learning.



Buying accredited internet services

You can use the Internet Services Accreditation service to purchase internet services from accredited suppliers that meet and maintain specific standards in content filtering and service performance, giving you assurance that:

- your specific requirements are met
- you can securely and flexibly deliver safe content to learners
- constant monitoring will help ensure service excellence and best practice.

Buying consultancy services

The Consultancy Services Framework provides an effective way to help you access authorised suppliers who offer a range of ICT-related educational, technical and procurement consultancy services. You therefore:

- obtain competitive rates more easily
- access consultants with proven educational knowledge and experience.

Buying software licences

Use the Software Licensing Framework to purchase software licences at educational prices. You can:

- use the framework suppliers' expertise to choose the most appropriate software solutions
- avoid the costs of being over-licensed or the legal risks of being under-licensed
- obtain advice on lower-cost alternatives to commonly used products
- receive help in understanding the complexities of licensing schemes.

Purchasing for schools:

www.becta.org.uk/schools/purchasing

Achieve best value – top tips

Save time, effort and money by collaborating to buy products and services as part of a consortium or in conjunction with your local authority. Check to see if they offer a procurement service for schools.

Whoever you partner with, ensure that you purchase from suppliers who comply with Becta's specifications, and consider making use of Becta's procurement arrangements.

Buy and build infrastructure as the basis for providing better learner experiences and outcomes.

Use Becta's Framework for ICT Technical Support (FITS) to ensure your infrastructure includes high quality technical design, support and service provision.

Look beyond the initial purchase: think about costs across the whole lifecycle of a product or service, including running costs such as the energy consumption of equipment.

Focus on sustainable technology, building the infrastructure for better learner outcomes by balancing the economic, social and environmental aspects of technology.

Review your current and planned use of technology in collaboration with all stakeholders. Take advantage of Becta's free online tool – the self-review framework – to guide you through every stage of the process.

Use open interoperable solutions, such as the Systems Interoperability Framework, to allow data transfer between applications within a school and between institutions.

Think about how you will use technology to share appropriate information about learners and their learning – consider how you will use technology to involve parents and the wider community.

Make the most of broadband – join the National Education Network (NEN), delivered through regional broadband consortia and local authorities in collaboration with Becta and JANET (UK).

Achieve best value:

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NEXT
GENERATION
LEARNING

Experience the
**future of
learning
today**



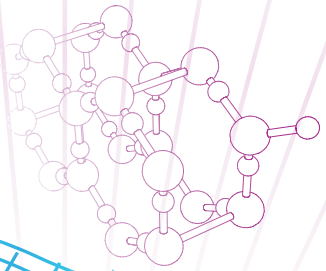
nextgenerationlearning.org.uk

$2a + b = 21$

Guten tag Buenos dias Buongiorno Bonjour

$a + b = 15$ $5p + q = 100$ $2p - q = -30$ $2(x + 3) = 10 - 2 \times 11$

Ronald Dahl A.A. Milne J.K. Rowling Beatrix Potter Enid Blyton
Philip Pullman David Almond Jacqueline Wilson



What is Next Generation Learning?

We know that technology offers enormous opportunities for education. In fact, research shows that learners with access to technology for learning have a far greater chance of achieving their potential.

The Next Generation Learning campaign is aimed at parents or carers, employers and learners. It is intended to raise their awareness of the benefits of the use of technology in education and to drive greater demand for it.

The campaign currently focuses on:

- greater engagement by parents or carers – with schools and at home
- effective use of technology in schools and colleges
- ensuring children are safe online.



Becta is also talking to schools to ensure that they are aware of how to use technology to its full potential to meet these demands.

See what we are saying to parents

www.nextgenerationlearning.org.uk

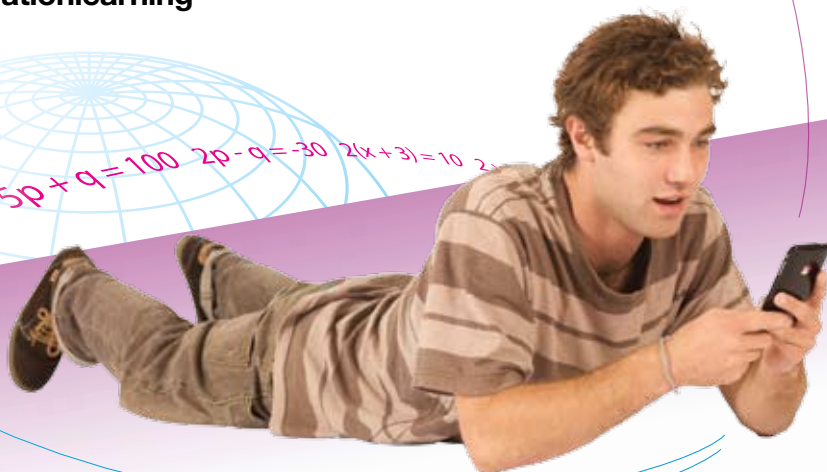
Find out how you can become Next Generation Learning ready

www.becta.org.uk/nextgenerationlearning

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Be prepared for more demand for Next Generation Learning

Improve your school

Develop and follow a strategy that uses technology to achieve better outcomes for learners

[www.becta.org.uk/
improveyourschool](http://www.becta.org.uk/improveyourschool)

Plan sustainable success

Balance the economic, social and environmental aspects of technology for learning

[www.becta.org.uk/
plansustainablesuccess](http://www.becta.org.uk/plansustainablesuccess)

Achieve best value

Secure quality, fit-for-purpose technology, with the right support, at the right price

[www.becta.org.uk/
achievebestvalue](http://www.becta.org.uk/achievebestvalue)

Safeguard learners online

Protect, educate and empower everyone to keep safe and secure online

[www.becta.org.uk/
safeguardlearnersonline](http://www.becta.org.uk/safeguardlearnersonline)

Inspire parental engagement

Enable parents to access and use technology for a positive impact on their children's learning

[www.becta.org.uk/
inspireparentalengagement](http://www.becta.org.uk/inspireparentalengagement)

Make learning personal

Support learners to make effective, discriminating use of technology that meets their needs

[www.becta.org.uk/
makelearningpersonal](http://www.becta.org.uk/makelearningpersonal)

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