

Level Up Reigate & Banstead is a project that provides refurbished laptops for children and young people who need them for home study.

In the current lockdown many vulnerable families are without enough digital kit to homeschool their children. In consultation with schools across Reigate & Banstead, the project has a Phase 1 target of providing 600 laptops to schools by Easter.

The laptops donated by the local community & businesses are collected and refurbished by an amazing team of volunteers. They are distributed to children and young people via local schools and charities.

Level Up Reigate & Banstead is a partnership project that is being delivered by Raven Housing Trust with support from VARB (Voluntary Action Reigate & Banstead) and Level Up Horley (now integrated with Level Up Reigate & Banstead). Fidelity UK are providing tech volunteers. Pfizer Limited is supporting the project financially with grant funding to be used for the cost of new hard drives and other parts needed for the refurbishment.

Current status / news

300 laptops have been provided to schools so far this year, and the tech volunteers are working incredibly hard to get the next batch ready. Project team members have been overwhelmed by the generosity of local people and businesses, with over 400 pieces of kit donated since the start of January. But more are still needed to meet the Easter target.

Specification

Due to the requirements of home schooling the project can only accept laptops which are running Windows 7, 8 or 10 and have at least one USB port. Those with missing power supplies or with batteries that will not charge are acceptable as these can be replaced.

Please note the project cannot accept tablets, phones, laptops running Windows XP or Vista, Apple devices or printers nor any qualifying laptops that are already known to be faulty.

Details of the operating system which your laptop is running are usually written on the label on the bottom of the machine.

Data security

All laptops will be securely wiped or have hard discs removed and destroyed. They are then refurbished before distribution. The volunteers doing this are DBS (disclosure and barring service) checked.

How to donate

Level Up has a donation box at **Raven House, 29 Linkfield Lane, Redhill Rh11SS** (large brown shed to the left of the front door) which is open Monday to Friday 9-5pm.

In the **South of the borough** anybody can donate a laptop during opening hours at **Horley Library**, by handing it to the reception desk.

In the **North of the borough** there will be an opportunity on Wednesday 3^{rd} and Thursday 4^{th} March to drop off laptops at the **Horseshoe Community Centre** in Banstead. A donation box will sit just inside the back door and will be accessible during the normal opening hours of the Centre.

Alternatively, "Level Up" volunteers can **collect your donation from your home**. To arrange collection, simply complete the form on the VARB website:

https://www.varb.org.uk/level-up/

If you have any queries about the project, please email levelup@ravenht.org.uk