

17 March 2010

Dear Parent/Carer,

As Deputy Principal with responsibility for ICT, I wanted to let you know about some of the areas we are developing to help inform and engage students and you, the parents/carers.

Our School Website – <http://www.oasislordshill.org>

This is our online face to the world which not only informs people what we are about, but also shows examples of some of the good work we do. The website is also an important place to find out about events taking place at the Academy, policies and our wider community programme.

Our School VLE – <http://vle.oasislordshill.org>

A VLE or Virtual Learning Environment is a website that has been setup to help students with their learning programme while at the academy. The site can be accessed anywhere the internet can be used. Students will be asked to use the system for a variety of tasks, including homework. All students have been issued their own secure login details.

Later on we are also hoping to allow parents to securely access reports and attendance information about their child via the VLE.

The Home Access Grant - <http://www.homeaccess.org.uk>

Home Access is a government drive that helps low-income families who currently lack access to a computer (or have an older computer) and/or internet, to get online at home.

The programme is aimed at those that need it most. If you are a low-income family in receipt of certain benefits you could qualify for a grant to buy a computer and/or a minimum of one years' internet access.

The academy has set itself up as an aggregator for this scheme, and will be supporting parents with their applications and will process all the orders to the supplier.

Please be aware that the closing date for parents / guardians to apply for the Home Access Grant and opt-in to our aggregation (group ordering) scheme is 30th April 2010.

If you have any questions or would like to find out more about any of the areas mentioned above, I would be more than happy to hear from you.

Yours faithfully,

Iain Salmon
Deputy Principal

Principal - Mr Ian Golding

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