

Digital Grants Programme Example Projects



A grant was awarded to an organisation to run weekly IT drop-in services for local residents. They supported residents to access online services and develop their technical skills and their confidence in using online services. As a result, one participant was motivated to develop his research skills, and record his findings by writing a book about World War One, which is a great passion of his. Another participant gained temporary employment through his self-sufficient use of the internet, and his increased confidence has led to him feeling much more positive about the future after being long-term unemployed.

A youth charity ran a series of workshops to explore how young people's behaviours and attitudes towards relationships are being influenced by the internet and their online use, with the aim of supporting young people to safely access digital information, and to be mindful of using the internet responsibly. Topics included cyber bullying, sexting and the law, pornography, catfishing and deep web internet safety. The organisation also presented to the local Children and Families Forum on their findings from the workshops, helping charities to be aware of this issue and the organisation's work in the area.



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This organisation was awarded a grant to run weekly computer and internet education sessions. The participant's needs varied; some opted for CV support, others learnt how to use I.T. and access the internet to help with their job search, some wanted information and advice, and some attended for the social aspect. One individual had been unsuccessful in attending his DWP appointments, and it became apparent that this was due to his lack of literacy skills, which had resulted in a lack of confidence in talking about it. He was provided with one-to-one support, including being signposted to literacy sessions and support writing a CV. He has continued to improve his literacy skills and has since found employment.

A grant was awarded to a local community centre to run a multitude of IT courses and drop-in sessions for local residents and adults with learning disabilities. Residents had access to laptops, Wi-Fi, and printing facilities, and a tutor delivered structured sessions and courses. The sessions were very popular with older residents, as an introductory course; helping them to gain the basic skills and confidence using the internet. They also included fun activities to engage different ages, and responded to residents' requests. For example, one older lady wanted to sell items on eBay, so they ran four one-to-one sessions to show her how to open an eBay account, upload pictures and start selling online. They now have four Digital Champions trained up and a pool of 40 volunteers supporting activities!

