Becta leading next generation learning

Digital Life Skills – Why do they matter?

July 2009

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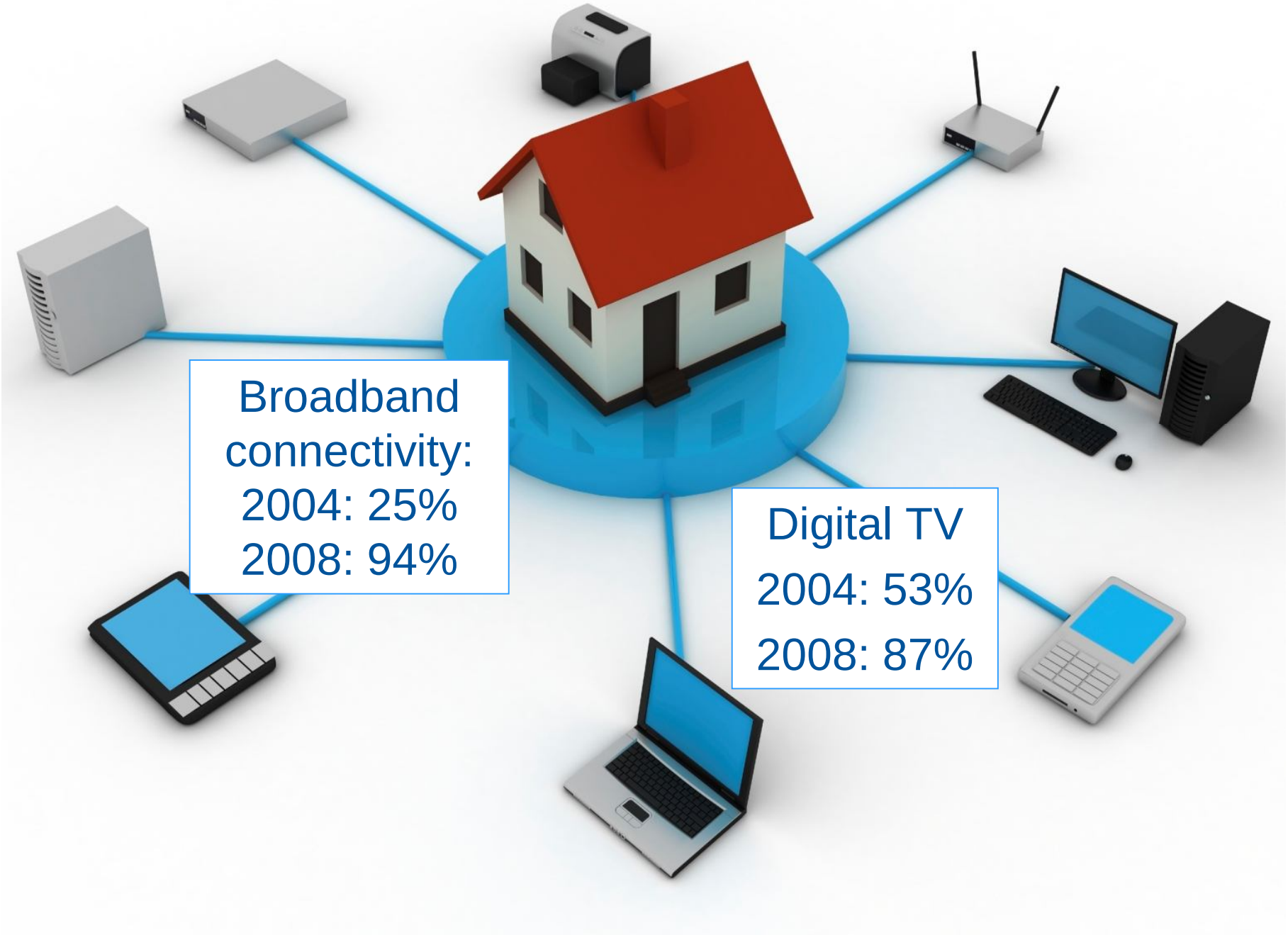
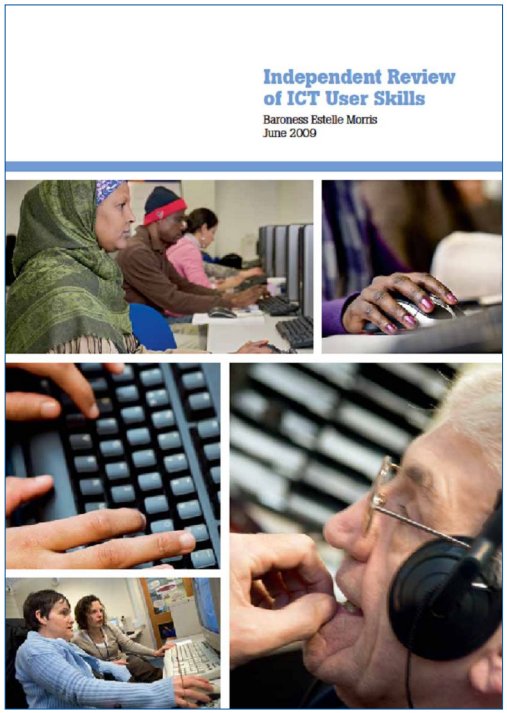
Executive Director

FE Regeneration and Delivery

Connecting to a digital world: we see steady progress



So what are digital life skills?



Identify the set of basic ICT skills an adult will require to take their first steps online – *using a computer to safely enter, access and communicate information.*

Digital skills have an impact on an adult's equality of access to information and services; employability; social inclusion, engagement in further learning, and on wider business productivity

Baroness Estelle Morris, June 2009

Why do digital life skills matter?

Social inclusion

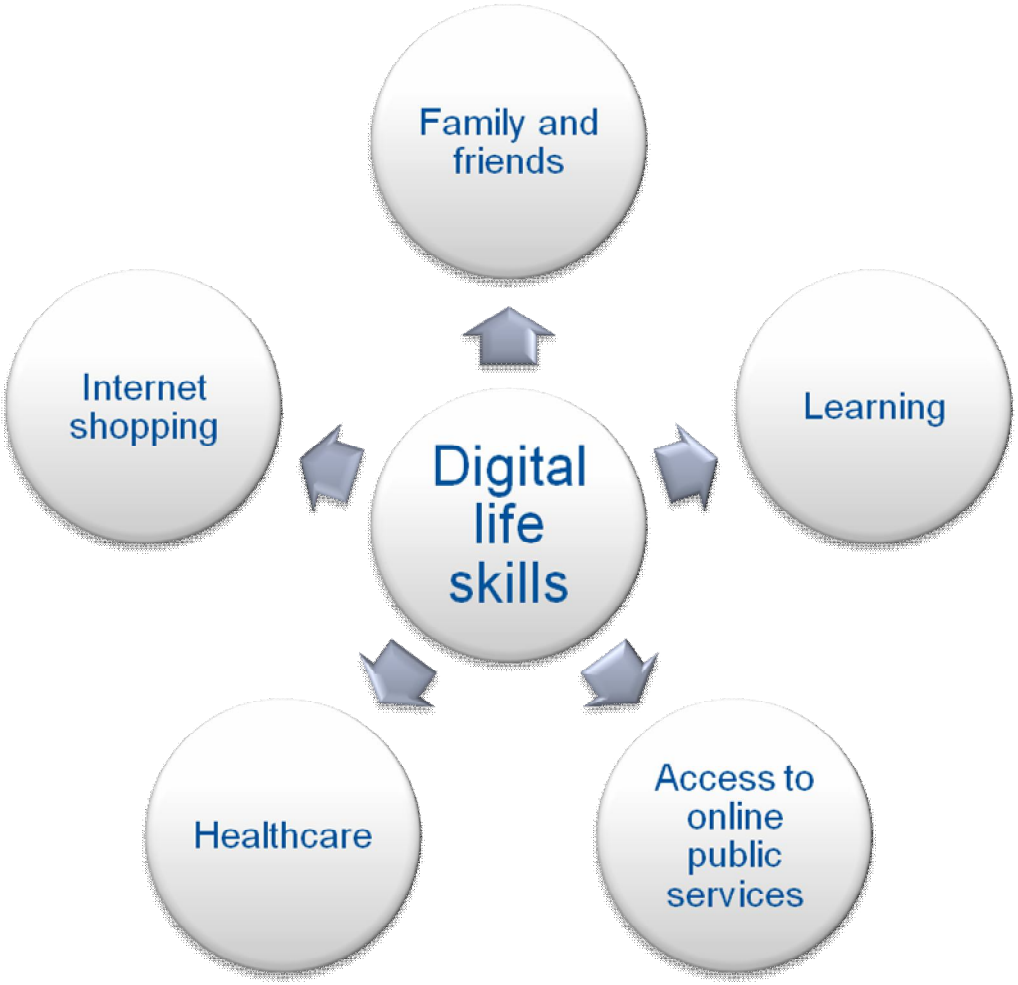
Equality of access

Employability

Business productivity

Learning and Skills

15% of adults are digitally and socially excluded



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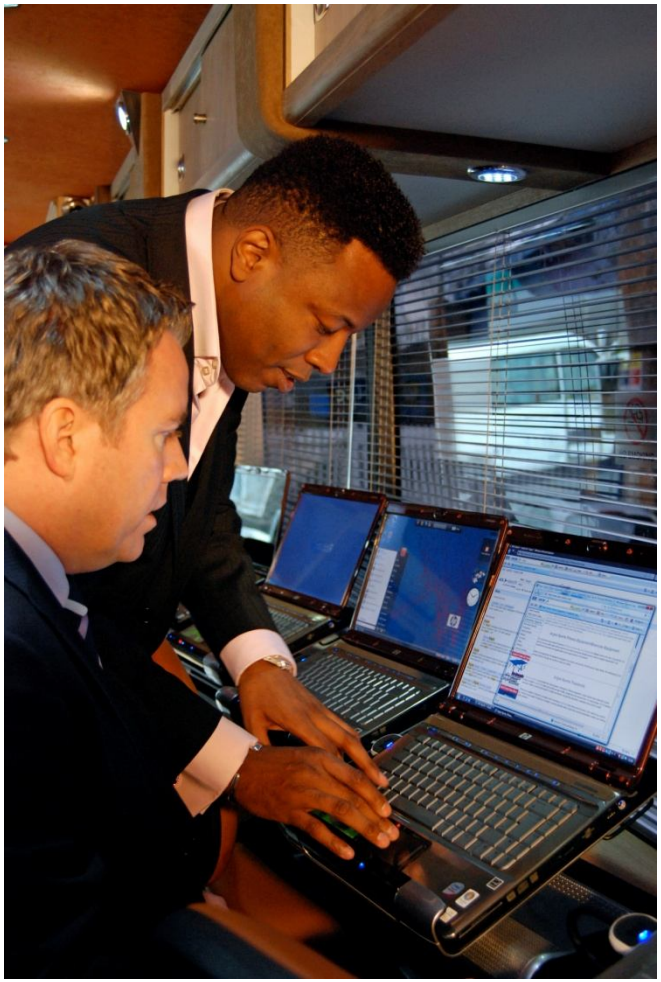
Equality of access to Information and services

Internet shopping *	• 13% saving groceries • 15% savings travel • 21% savings services
Access to public services	• Car tax online • Online tax return
More information	• Family health • Where to go for….

* Source: UK online and Freshminds, April 2008

Employability



- 77% of adults use IT in their jobs
- Businesses now recruit, train and trade online
- Research by NRDC and others, shows a link between Digital Life Skills and employability, those who are out of work will find it more difficult to get work without these skills

Business Productivity

24% of employers surveyed in 2007 (NES) said their ICT user skills needed improving. Skills gaps increase with the size of employer

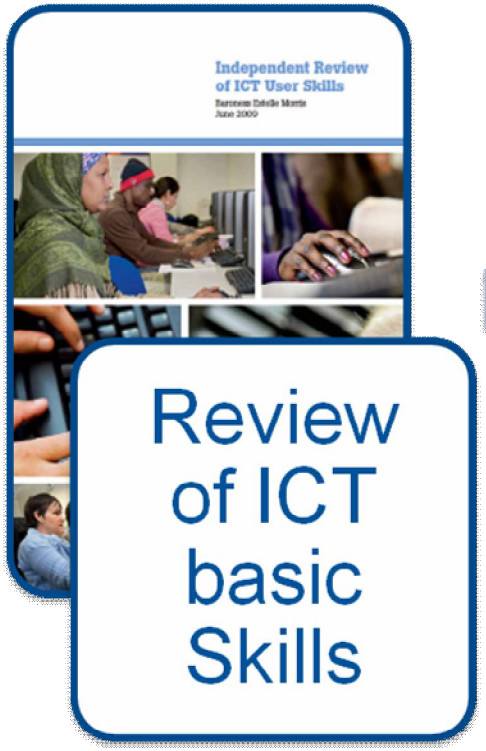
ONS research suggests a link between Internet Access for employees and productivity based on:

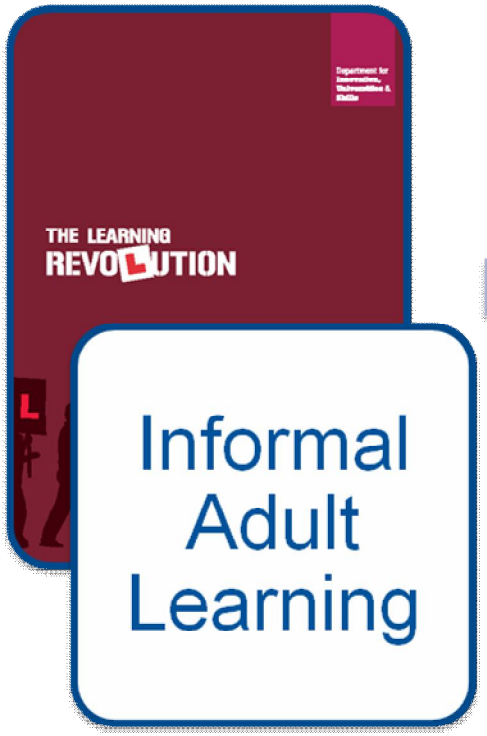
- sharing of ideas
- increasing the speed to market for new products and services
- accessing the cost and efficiency associated with ecommerce

Learning and Skills

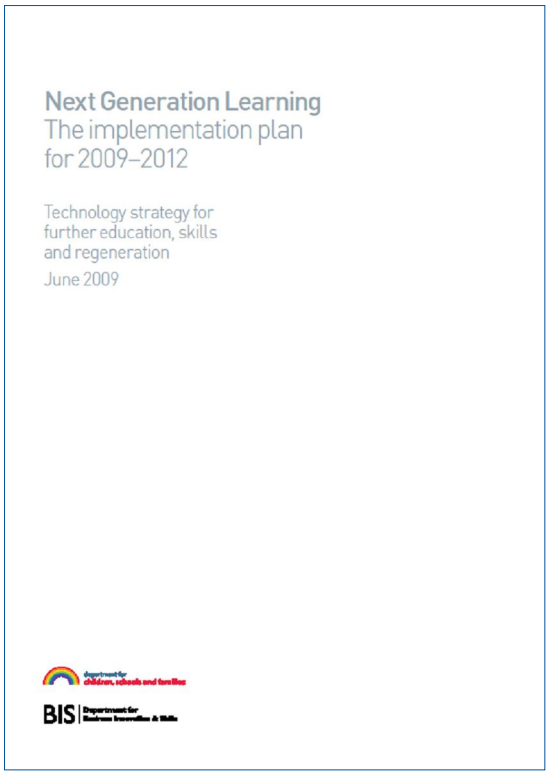
'Learners who use ICT for basic skills double the value of their study time acquiring two sets of skills at the same time' *NRDC 2007*

How can we have an impact?





Planning and partnership



http://thelearningrevolution.ning.com

http://altogethernow.ning.com

Get in touch.....

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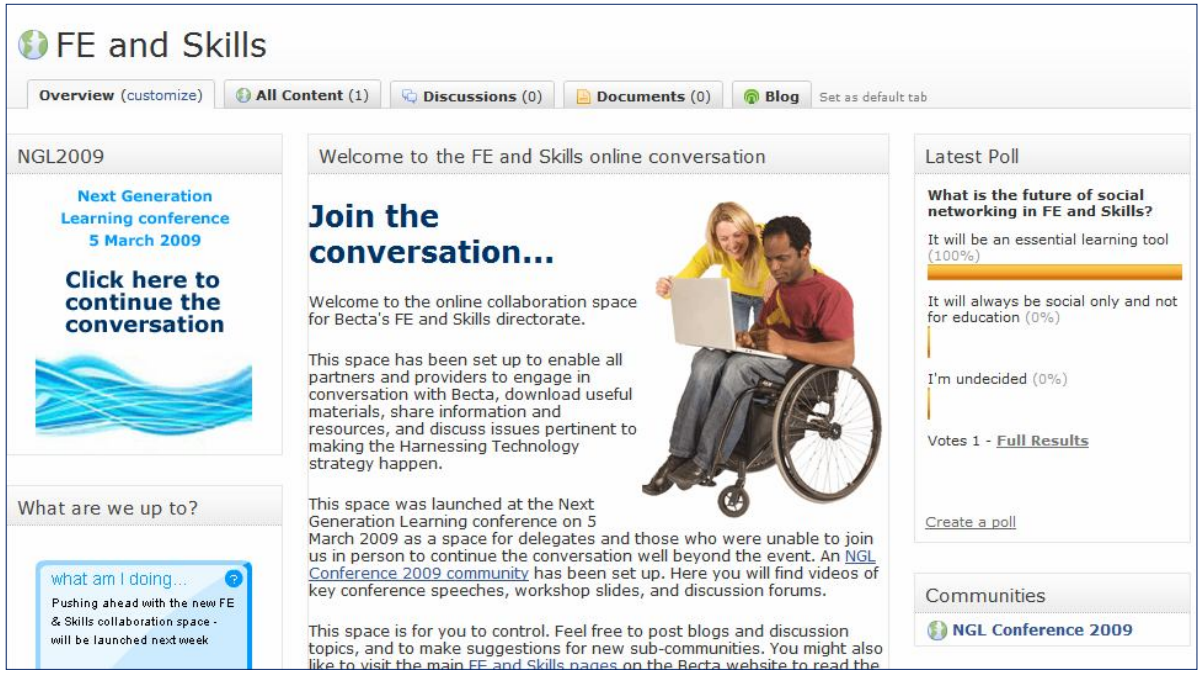

http://collaboration.becta.org.uk