



An Introduction to AbilityNet and BT's Partnership for the Over 65s

AbilityNet

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Understanding the Need

For many over 65s, navigating the digital landscape can be daunting. Fear of the unknown, unfamiliarity with devices, and anxieties about online safety can create a formidable barrier. This digital exclusion not only limits access to crucial online services like healthcare and banking but also isolates individuals from social connections and valuable information.

Empowering Senior Skills

Recognizing this urgent need, AbilityNet, a leading digital accessibility charity, and BT Group, a prominent telecommunications giant, have joined forces. Their innovative partnership, aptly named the "Senior Skills Programme," aims to equip the over 65s with the digital skills and confidence they need to thrive in the modern world.

Tailored Training, Accessible Delivery

The program offers a unique blend of personalized and accessible training delivered in a format that resonates with older adults. Individuals can choose between one-on-one sessions or group workshops conducted in familiar community settings like cafes, libraries, or even their own homes. This flexibility ensures individual needs are met while fostering a supportive learning environment.

Demystifying the Digital

Training sessions cover a spectrum of essential skills, catering to diverse interests and comfort levels. From mastering the basics of smartphones and tablets to navigating the internet safely, exploring email and social media, and even accessing online public services, the program empowers seniors to conquer their digital fears and unlock a world of possibilities.

Beyond Functionality, Building Confidence

The partnership goes beyond mere technical training. Recognizing the emotional barriers hindering digital adoption, the program fosters a supportive environment where anxieties are addressed, and confidence is nurtured. By emphasizing a “fearless” approach to technology, the program empowers seniors to embrace learning and celebrate their achievements, no matter how small.

Impact Beyond Individuals

The “Senior Skills Programme” extends its impact beyond individual empowerment. By equipping those over 65 with digital skills, it contributes to a more inclusive digital society. Seniors can stay connected with loved ones, engage in their communities, access crucial services, and even contribute their valuable skills and perspectives online. This digital inclusion enriches society as a whole, fostering intergenerational connections and bridging the digital divide.

Looking Ahead

The AbilityNet and BT partnership, currently operating in select UK cities, serves as a vital model for bridging the digital divide across generations. To request a place, call AbilityNet on [0131 376 3020](tel:01313763020) or visit [Digital Skills Training for people over 65](#)

[AbilityNet: Digital Skills Training for people over 65](#)