**E1** 

## **Choosing a device**

**Learner Card** 

Project

It's hard to say exactly which device would work best for you; it depends on so much. In

The table below is correct at time of going to print...but may well change! Take a look and see

recent years, the number and type of devices available have changed dramatically.

what you think would best suit your needs.			
Static Devices			
Device	Pros	Cons	Approx. Cost
Desktop Computer	Powerful and can do almost anything; a technician can 'upgrade', rather than replacing, when it becomes old; easy to connect to printers, cameras etc.	Bulky; only works in one place and requires a number of power sockets; you need to be able to use a mouse or track-pad	£500 - £2000
Games Console	You get all the benefits of gaming while having access to the internet; you get to use the internet through your TV	Often requires an additional subscription to be able to access the internet; not often practical for typing, etc. without additional accessories; limited programmes / apps available	£150 - £600
Smart TV	You get internet through your TV on a large screen	Often requires an additional subscription to be able to access the internet; not often practical for typing, etc. without additional accessories; limited apps available	£300 - £5,000
Mobile Devices			
Device	Pros	Cons	Aprox Cost
Tablet	Extremely portable; touchscreen is easy to use; un-intrusive; apps designed for simple mobile use	Smaller screens than laptops; harder to customise	£100 - £700
Smart Phone	Very portable; has full phone functionality	Very small screen; hard to customise; doesn't work on some websites; hard to type	Free on some contracts - £300+
Laptop Computer	Powerful and can do almost anything; portable; big screen	Unlike its desktop cousins it can't easily be upgraded; portable but often heavy; you need to be able to use a mouse or track-pad	£300 - £2000
Netbook Computer	Small and portable, but keeps most of the power of the laptop	Not as good for complex tasks like data or video editing; smaller screen, worse sound than laptops	£150 - £350