

Garnett Wharfe Wireless Mesh



Overview

With poor broadband on the Garnett Wharfe residential housing estate in Otley, West Yorkshire, Schools Broadband were tasked with deploying Ultrafast broadband to homes across the estate. The main objective was to deliver Ultrafast speeds at a great price, without the need for a BT landline.

Our Approach

Schools Broadband teamed up with Prince Henry's Grammar School, who have pupils living in the area, to implement one of the largest ever UK trials of an innovative networking solution using Wireless Mesh Technology. The school's spare internet capacity was used for the foundation of the wireless mesh network. Devices were then placed strategically around the housing estate's lamp posts to extend the mesh. This bounced the school's excess internet between the devices, blanketing the estate in Ultrafast Wi-Fi. The residents now enjoy some of the fastest internet in the country.

Outcome

We were able to deliver the residents of Garnett Wharfe an internet connection with speeds of up to 1,000mbps, all without the need for fibre cables.



When we were approached by Schools Broadband to take part in this project, it made perfect sense. We work hard to benefit our local community, not just through our work with families in school, but through everything we do, so helping local residents to have better Wi-Fi is very appropriate. The project will benefit not just our students and families, but all residents who live in Garnett Wharfe – a fantastic result.

We would certainly recommend that other schools who have spare capacity get involved – the process was very simple and painless for us and is a great use of spare resources to help our local community.

Chris Rowbottom, Associate Headteacher of Prince Henry's Grammar



My daughter finally got to join in her online class today. She absolutely loved seeing her friends and she loved her online lesson.

Jennifer Aneyard, Garnett Wharfe Resident



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