

### Important changes to the e-gfl ordering portal

Many of you will have seen Michael Gove's message to schools, outlining the coalition Government's expectation that schools will achieve a reduction in their capital expenditure through smart and collaborative procurement. In Essex, we can be proud of the fact that we have been achieving this target for a number of years through the Essex Grid for Learning on-line ICT shopping portal.

You may also be aware that RM is working in partnership with Essex County Council and the Essex Local Education Partnership to provide an on-line shopping portal for all Essex schools. ICT equipment and services will be available at discounted prices.

In addition to RM, many of our long-standing supplier partners have also indicated that they would like to offer Essex schools a greater range of goods and services at special discounted rates.

To facilitate these new opportunities, we will be implementing two important changes from February 12th, 2011.



The existing e-gfl on-line ICT shopping portal will become a 'signposting' facility, highlighting a small range of equipment that will allow schools to deliver key elements in learning and teaching, with indicative prices. Schools will be required to place orders direct with suppliers. Until the 12th February 2011, the e-gfl catalogue is still available here.

All LA supported schools will have access to the on-line shopping portal provided by RM in partnership with Essex County Council and the Essex Local Education Partnership. To access the discount portal, you will require a VIP membership card, username and password. To obtain your membership card, please email [sally.moorcock@essex.gov.uk](mailto:sally.moorcock@essex.gov.uk). [The new catalogue may be viewed here.](#)

Whichever purchasing method you decide to use, may we please emphasise that all orders and invoices should be dealt with directly by your school and by the supplier. The LA will no longer be raising invoices for any orders from schools, placed after February 12th 2011.

