



# northern grid

## Press Release

### North East schools celebrate pupils' success with technology

Northern Grid for Learning's 6th annual ICT in Education Award ceremony will see a record breaking 37 short listed schools attending this prestigious event. At 10 a.m. there will be an exhibition and each school will share their work with local authority colleagues, pupils and teachers. The ceremony will begin at 11.15.

Schools and pupils of all ages across the Northern Grid region were invited to submit their entries in any digital format including: video, audio, animation and web based formats.

The 12 categories are:

- Creative Digital Media
- Animations
- Collaboration Through Technology
- Computer Graphics and Art
- Promotion of the Region
- Teachers' Award
- Inclusion
- ICT in a Subject
- PHSE including E-Safety
- Personalisation
- Surprise Me!
- Overall Excellence in ICT

In addition to demonstrating the impact technology can have on learning, some entries showcase projects to help parents have a greater understanding and role in their child's learning and progress at school.



# northern grid

Broadband and communication technologies provide wonderful opportunities for pupils and teachers but there are potential dangers. Northern Grid is a leading source of e-Safety and safeguarding support, and the e-Safety award provides schools with an opportunity to share their pupils' work and understanding in this very important area of learning. Pupils created exciting and thoughtful videos and animations to explain and highlight these dangers to their friends and families.

The most effective use of technology to support learning occurs when it is structured across the whole curriculum and Northern Grid's prestigious **Overall Excellence in ICT** award exists to recognise schools that have achieved this. Previous winners of this award have gone on to win national awards, share their experiences at national conferences and feature in online case studies.

The award ceremony is a time for these schools to celebrate their achievements, Northern Grid wants all schools to benefit from their experiences and to feel empowered to adapt and adopt this good practice in their own learning communities.

Details of the winning schools will be published on the Northern Grid website ([www.northerngrid.org](http://www.northerngrid.org)) and last year's winners will present at the 2010 Northern Grid Conference at the Gosforth Park Marriott on 25th June

**ENDS**

## About Northern Grid

Northern Grid for Learning supports schools and local authorities to achieve the highest possible standards by embracing the opportunities technology can provide for 21st century education.

### northern grid

Northern Grid, established in 2000 to deliver the Government's strategy to introduce broadband connectivity to schools, has been highly successful in establishing a robust, reliable regional network. All schools within Northern Grid's partner local authorities were connected to broadband technologies two years ahead of schedule



# northern grid

and the network is regularly upgraded to ensure schools have the broadband provision they need.

The majority of secondary schools receive 100Mgb and most primary schools receive 10Mgb. They are linked into a regional network which is fully resilient and which provides 1Gb connectivity throughout the region. .

Northern Grid's current focus is supporting the transformation of learning through technologies and digital resources.

Northern Grid provides teachers with the tools to enhance their teaching and allow greater personalisation of students' learning experiences, in their drive for whole school improvement.

Northern Grid's activities and services range from dedicated hands-on training, school leader briefing sessions, ICT awards for the region's most innovative schools, working with teachers to develop freely available content and negotiating with commercial partners to offer schools discounted resources.

By collaborating regionally and nationally with schools, agencies, the commercial sector, Regional Broadband Consortia (RBCs) and the wider education sector, Northern Grid undertakes activities that provide best value, promote best practice and establish the region as a national centre of excellence.

Northern Grid is owned by the seven Local Authorities of:

- Darlington
- Hartlepool
- Middlesbrough
- North Tyneside
- Redcar and Cleveland
- Stockton
- South Tyneside.

The latest spending review has shown that by working together, and aggregating procurements, Northern Grid has saved its partner Local Authorities **more than £15 million over the last year.**



# northern grid

Northern Grid works closely with the 9 other RBCs in England, as well as Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. Together these 13 organisations form the National Education Network.

[www.northerngrid.org](http://www.northerngrid.org)

[www.nen.gov.uk](http://www.nen.gov.uk)

## For further information contact:

**Mel Philipson**  
Manager  
Northern Grid for Learning

0191 4611844

[mel.philipson@northerngrid.org.uk](mailto:mel.philipson@northerngrid.org.uk)