

**Ref: SI\_Covid-19TaskForce\_Laptop Donation Initiative**

**Date: 22.04.2020**

### **Calling all Scout Groups – Laptop Donation**

#ScoutsHelpingOut

Calling all Scout Groups!

Scouting Ireland continues to explore ways in which we can all support our local communities during the global COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, many exam students are preparing for examinations and depend on access to online tuition and resources from their schools. For students without access to a laptop, this is a particularly anxious and worrying time.

One initiative, which we are asking Groups to consider, is to support the Camara Education Ireland and Trinity Access 'Tech2Students' initiative in your local community. This involves reaching out to families, friends and the community attached to your Group to ask for any unwanted laptops (less than 5 years old) to be donated to your Group.

Once collected, your Group can then arrange to present these laptops to a Camara Education Ireland representative. You can connect with this initiative using the following link: [www.tcd.ie/trinityaccess/tech2students](http://www.tcd.ie/trinityaccess/tech2students). Camara Education Ireland will arrange to wipe the laptops of all software and install the necessary software, before ensuring that these laptops are given to exam students in need. This is one simple way in which scouting can make a difference in our communities.

**Step 1:** Ask for your members, families and friends to gather up any **unwanted laptops** (with chargers) – **No more than 5 years old**. (See attached sample letter to families/friends). Please request all to ensure their **personal files and data are deleted** from the laptop before donation.

**Step 2:** Arrange for a donation **collection point**. A Scout den or other suitable location. Please make sure all attendees observe social distancing guidelines and sanitize laptops with anti-bacterial wipes when received.

**Step 3:** Make contact with Camara Education Ireland to arrange collection of laptops. ***Note: This initiative is being rolled out in the Dublin area first and will be scaled to nationwide (Rep of Ireland) in the coming weeks.***

**Note for Dublin based Scout Groups:** please register collected laptops with Camara Education Ireland collection at their tech2students website – [Click Here](#) for further information

**See below for Sample letter to send out to your members:**

#SCOUTSHELPINGOUT



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Re: Laptop Scheme

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the \_\_\_\_\_ Scout Group, I am writing to you to ask that you gather up any unwanted laptops (with chargers) and send them to us. We are gathering up as many as possible in association with the Irish Charity; Camara Education Ireland, as part of their nationwide 'Tech2Students' initiative.

Camara Education Ireland will install new software and make the laptops available to students who need them to access online tuition and resources from their school as they prepare for their State Examinations.

**The laptops will need to have been made from 2015 onwards and we strongly recommend you delete any personal files before donation.** This will be a great way in which our Scout Group can help alleviate some stress and anxiety among students who need support at this time.

If you have (or if someone you know has) a laptop and charger that you no longer need, then we would be delighted to ensure that it gets to where it needs to go.

As Scouts, we welcome any opportunity to help our community, especially young people. This is one way in which we can help make a difference during this difficult time.

You can drop off the laptop at: \_\_\_\_\_ (please observe social distancing guidelines) on \_\_\_\_\_ between \_\_\_\_\_pm and \_\_\_\_\_pm.

**Don't forget to sanitise the Laptop before drop-off!**

This is a difficult time for everyone, remember even the smallest of gestures can make a big difference.

Yours in Scouting,

\_\_\_\_\_

Group Leader