

## L&G Re's Lighthouse Connect provides 50 laptops for students of three Bermuda public schools

Lighthouse Connect, an educational initiative launched by Legal & General Reinsurance (L&G Re), has now supplied 120 laptops to Bermuda's public-school students, after its latest delivery of 50 devices to three schools. More than 100 additional laptops are on order.

Of the latest batch, CedarBridge Academy received 41 laptops, while five went to Clearwater Middle School and four to Success Academy. The recipients were children identified by their schools as being in urgent need of the devices to support their ongoing remote learning while schools were closed because of COVID-19 restrictions.

L&G Re established Lighthouse Connect in May last year and provided the initial funding. The Bermuda Community Foundation hosts the fund and the initiative is run in partnership with the Mirrors Programme. The goal is to raise funds to provide free laptops to all Bermuda public-school students to support their education through the pandemic and beyond.

Additional corporate and individual donors are invited to contribute to Lighthouse Connect, which procures laptops in stages as funds are raised. The Ministry of Education-approved devices are distributed in order of need, a process managed by the Mirrors Programme.

Lighthouse Connect addresses the increased need for digital learning tools during the COVID-19 pandemic, while also contributing to the long-term learning of Bermuda public school students. The initiative allows companies and individuals to contribute to the purchase of technology resources in a coordinated and cohesive manner, providing equipment suitable for schools.

**“We are delighted to be able to make a positive difference to the lives of these students of CedarBridge Academy, Clearwater Middle School and Success Academy. The switch to remote learning during the pandemic brought the issue of access to technological resources into sharp focus, but in this Digital Age it will remain important for the long term. Providing these essential learning tools is an investment in the potential of Bermuda's youth.”**

**Thomas Olunloyo, CEO, Legal & General Reinsurance**

**“We are proud to be involved with the Lighthouse Connect initiative as it aligns perfectly with our focus, to empower students to achieve their full potential in school and life. The L&G Re team has demonstrated its commitment to ensuring students in need have devices for learning by providing the initial funds to the project and ongoing leadership in fund development. We are grateful to the partners who have donated to the project and we encourage everyone to make a contribution to education – the gift that keeps giving. The Lighthouse Connect project will continue ensuring opportunity for all children. We are glad to be a part of this worthy initiative.”**

**Kimberley Jackson, Mirrors Programme Manager**

**“At CedarBridge Academy we are committed to cultivating Bermuda's achievers. I would like to thank L&G Re for their donation of laptops for CedarBridge Academy students. It has been a year since we commenced remote learning and overall students have done a phenomenal job adjusting to this new learning environment. Although, the majority of our students have an acceptable device for learning, there are some students who do not. With the donation from L&G Re we are able to provide a device for those students to ensure they can receive instruction. Providing these essential digital learning tools is an investment in the potential of Bermuda's youth.”**

**Kenneth Caesar, Principal of CedarBridge Academy**

“On behalf of my peers I am taking this opportunity to thank you, Legal & General Reinsurance Limited, for donating laptops to our school. I am confident that my fellow peers who are in need of this technology during this remote learning will use this donation as an opportunity to continue to reach academic success.”

**Dequan Trott, Head Boy of CedarBridge Academy**

“This act of benevolence has been a wonderful gesture, considering the COVID-19 pandemic has challenged us to revisit our instructional methodologies to facilitate teaching and learning. Our young men have put ‘their best foot forward’ in attending remote learning classes; consequently, having access to these Chromebooks has afforded them the opportunity to engage in uninterrupted learning. We are indeed grateful to Kim Jackson, of the Mirrors Program, for thinking of us as we continue to provide exciting learning opportunities for our students.”

**Dr. John Duncan, Acting Programme Director, Success Academy**

"The laptop works very well and helps me to be productive with my remote classes."

**Ziun Castle, student, Success Academy**

"I really like the brand-new Chromebooks. I think it is ‘cool’ that they thought of us and gave us a computer so we can do our work successfully."

**Brittonie Taylor, student, Success Academy**

Prospective donors should email [lighthouse@landg.bm](mailto:lighthouse@landg.bm) for details on how to contribute.

## Notes to editors

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Legal & General Reinsurance is the Bermuda-based global reinsurance hub of Legal & General Group Plc, a multinational financial services company offering life and annuity reinsurance solutions. L&G Re provides reinsurance to clients in the UK, Europe, US and Canada and has assets under management of \$30 billion.

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*\* at 31 December 2020*

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## Further information

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