

Refurbished Computers FAQ

Q: Refurbished computers?

A: Yes. Now that the 5-year age limit for computers has been relaxed for ratios, schools are able to buy computers, regardless of age and still account for them as long as they perform the task for which they are intended.

Q: What are the advantages?

A: Once the computers are refurbished, they are tested by Centaur Systems to ensure that they are capable of running selected versions of Microsoft® Windows® and software. To enable us to make sure that the computers will meet your requirements, we can discuss your needs and if the refurbishments are capable of the task.

Q: What about Windows licences? Isn't this a false economy?

A: Not at all. Centaur Systems is a **Microsoft Authorised Refurbisher**. This means that Centaur staff can install *Windows 98 Second Edition* or *Windows 2000 Professional* onto a refurbished computer, completely licensed at no cost to the school.

Q: Free software! Could you put Microsoft Office on too?

A: Sorry, but right now the scheme only covers Microsoft Windows licences. Microsoft is also planning to allow refurbishers such as ourselves, to install Microsoft Works sometime later this year. However, if you do not have enough licences for other software, then there is a great deal of open source alternatives out there that we can recommend.

Q: Can staff buy computers?

A: No. However, schools are welcome to buy the PCs and supply them to staff either by loan or lease. The Windows licence is valid as long as the PC remains the property of the school.

Q: What happens if the computers stop working?

A: As the PCs are used, there is a limited warranty on the hardware of 3 months from Centaur Systems. Should the unit fail during this time, Centaur will be happy to repair or replace the PC with a similar model. Contact us either by phone, or via our website www.centaur.it.

Q: Does the school receive Windows CDs?

A: No. The school receives the computer loaded with the operating system and signs an Eligible Recipient Agreement. A Certificate of Authenticity (COA) is also attached to the computer to show that the computer has a licence to run the operating system.

Q: How much does it cost?

A: That depends on what system you wish to buy. Also, if you would like peripherals and any hardware upgraded, this will naturally add to the cost. However, for a basic base unit and monitor, expect to pay no more than £100.

Q: Great! Can I have 500 please?

A: Sure! As long as we have that many in stock, of course. As these computers are previously used, there's no guarantee we can meet demand. If that is the case, then we can add you to our list of interested schools and contact you as soon as more stock arrives.



If you have any further questions or would like to talk to us about your requirements please contact us.