

# TUDOR GRANGE ACADEMY SOLIHULL

## Tips for improving your WIFI at home

We sometimes think that we need more bandwidth or speed for our broadband at home. While that's never a bad thing, the issue for most people is that the **device they are using** such as a laptop, iPad or smart phone **has a poor or slow connection within the house to the wireless router** provided by your network provider, such as BT, Sky, Virgin etc.

We'll give you a few hints and tips in this document about how you can improve these connections without spending any money, and then also provide some options for investing in improving the signal in your home if that's needed.

### Improving the signal from your network providers wireless router

First of all – what is the Wireless Router & what does it look like?



Virgin routers



BT routers



Sky router

All the routers work in the same way in terms of delivering a signal to the devices in your home. They almost always have two bands of Wi-Fi:

- 2.4GHz gives you the best coverage when you're a few rooms away from your Hub
- 5GHz gives you the fastest speed when you're in the same room or one room away from your Hub

In order to improve the way the hubs work, follow the best practises overleaf.



## Location:

It's vital to put your router in the right place - ideally near to where you most use the internet. Solid surfaces like walls, doors, wardrobes and cupboards will all affect your Wi-Fi signal, so follow the tips to get the best signal.

Sometimes though, an Openreach network point is installed in a particular place and can't be moved. If that's the case, and you're not getting strong connection everywhere, you can use Powerline Adapters or consider additional Wi-Fi extenders which extend the Wi-Fi signal in the home.

### Position your Hub in the middle of your home



If you put your Hub in a central location, you'll reduce the number of walls slowing down your signal. This means you can get better Wi-Fi in more places in your home.

### Move it away from the window

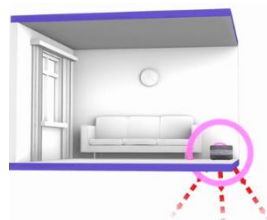


If you put your Hub next to a window, half of your signal will be sent outside. That's bad news for the Wi-Fi coverage around your home

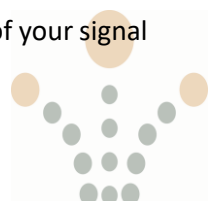
### Keep it on show

If you put your Hub in a cupboard, you'll reduce your Wi-Fi performance. The effect is less than going through a wall - but it'll still slow down your speed and reduce how far your signal can go

### Get your Hub off the floor on to a shelf or table



Think of your Wi-Fi signal like light from a light bulb. If you put your Hub on the floor, a large amount of your signal will be immediately sent to your floorboards

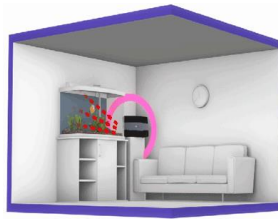


## Don't put it behind the TV or on top of a metal box



Metal objects reflect and scatter your signal

## Keep it away from the fish!



Wi-Fi can't swim! The Wi-Fi signal gets swallowed up by water so you'll significantly reduce how far your Wi-Fi can go

[Source - BT: Improve your Wi-Fi with BT](#)

If you are still having issues you can further improve the connection from your devices to the internet by using a number of different Wi-Fi extender devices that both the service providers themselves sell, and also 3<sup>rd</sup> party products that can be added onto the service providers broadband router.

### Network provider Mesh network services:

BT - [Complete Wifi | Wifi Booster & Extender | BT](#)

Sky - [Sky Broadband Boost | Sky Help | Sky.com](#)

Virgin - [Do I need a Booster? | Virgin Media](#)

### 3rd party WIFI mesh systems 2021:

[The Best Wi-Fi Mesh Network Systems for 2021 \(pcmag.com\)](#)

### NOTE: Fibre to the Premises.

BT Openreach are in the process of rolling out Fibre to the premises in the Solihull area.

[Fibre First: Your future with broadband | Openreach](#)

This means that BT will replace the copper cables to your home that currently provide the broadband with a faster fibre connection. BT have recently been contacting customers with a copper connection in the Solihull area and offering to upgrade this connection for free to a Fibre 100 (100Mbps) connection. If you are offered this option, it will increase both the upload and download speeds of the connection into the property significantly.

