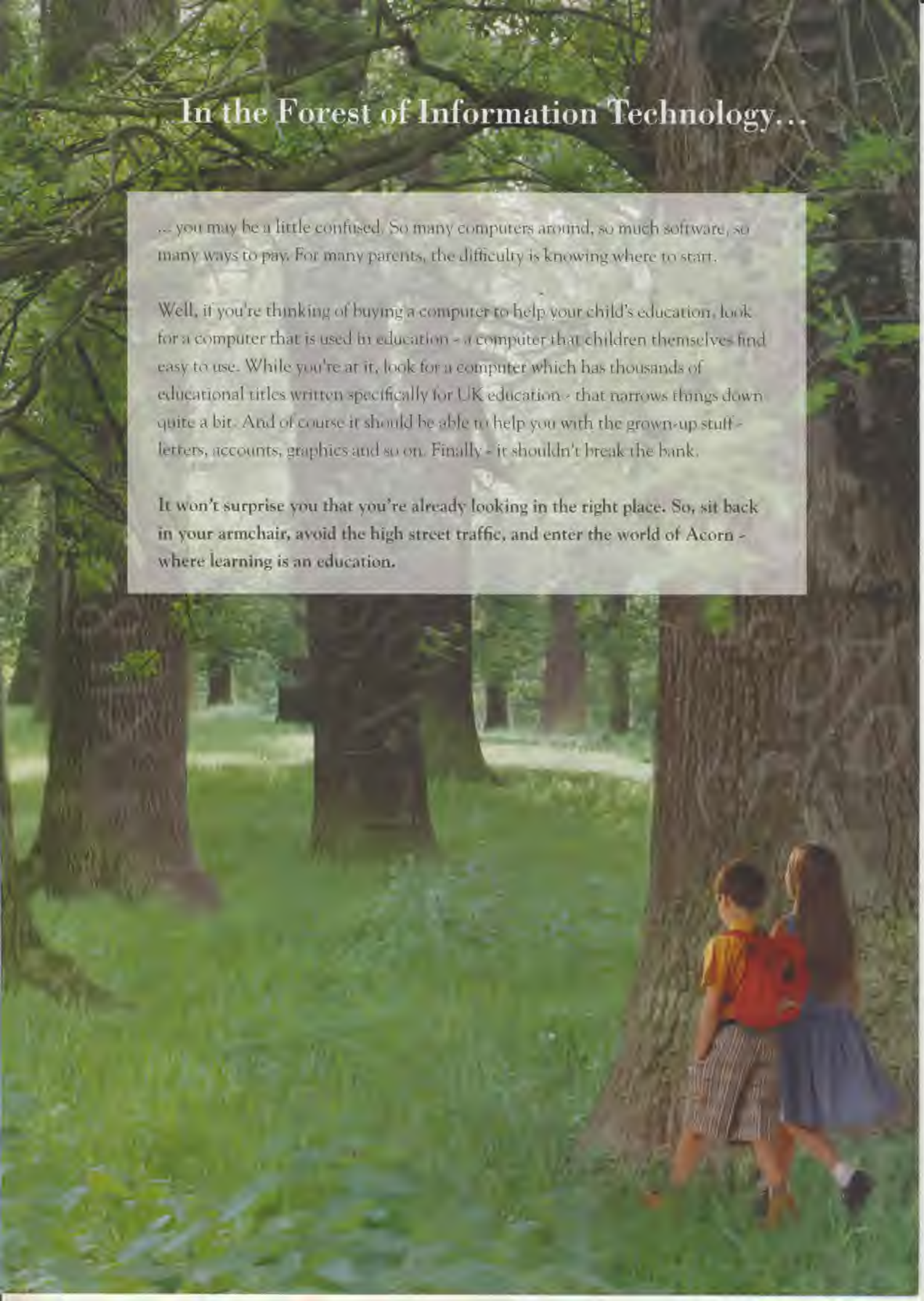
A Parents Guide to Computing

Acorn



In the Forest of Information Technology...

... you may be a little confused. So many computers around, so much software, so many ways to pay. For many parents, the difficulty is knowing where to start.

Well, if you're thinking of buying a computer to help your child's education, look for a computer that is used in education - a computer that children themselves find easy to use. While you're at it, look for a computer which has thousands of educational titles written specifically for UK education - that narrows things down quite a bit. And of course it should be able to help you with the grown-up stuff - letters, accounts, graphics and so on. Finally - it shouldn't break the bank.

It won't surprise you that you're already looking in the right place. So, sit back in your armchair, avoid the high street traffic, and enter the world of Acorn - where learning is an education.

We Talk Your Language

Don't be scared! Acorn computers are designed for children to be comfortable with, so you should have no problems at all. (OK, if you do, there's a helpline just for you.)

So Just What, Exactly, Is This Language?

Most computer suppliers talk about a 'desktop'. In reality, this means a desk, with a filing system underneath it. Unfortunately, you can only access one application at a time, for example a word processor. If you then want to add a drawing to your work, you have to leave the word processor, and go into a drawing application. OK so far? Here's where it gets complicated. Any piece of work is called a document (which makes sense because it ends up in the filing system under the desktop). If you want to copy a piece of information, for example some text, you need to copy it to a thing called a 'clipboard', which is the computing equivalent of the twilight zone. You then need to locate the clipboard in order to transfer the information to the desired document.

Why Is Acorn Different?

Looking at the scenario above, things had to improve!

The language all Acorns speak is called RISC OS. RISC OS allows many applications to be open at the same time, just like working at a big desk with your documents spread out in front of you. Instead of copying things to the clipboard, moving text and graphics from one application to another becomes a simple matter of 'drag and drop'. You literally 'drag' the information you want to the place you want it and 'drop' it there. None of this copying to the clipboard nonsense. And, as you move up the Acorn range, you continue to use the same language!

THE COMPLETE
ANIMATOR

Start As You Mean to Go On - The Early Years Learning system

Learning starts at home. At this vital stage in life, Acorn offers the Early Years Learning system to help prepare our children for tomorrow's world, in which we must look beyond the 'three Rs' to a new literacy. The language and application of computer technology will touch our children's lives to an incalculable degree. Indeed, computers are becoming a key part of education from the earliest days in school. The ability to work with them effectively is crucial to every child's development and future achievement.

Acorn computer equipment and educational software is used by teachers and pupils in over 27,000 schools. Imagine the head-start your child could gain if your home had an Acorn system.

Early Years, part of the Learning Curve range, contains software specifically written for young children to encourage their educational development. Start with the art package to 'paint' and 'draw' on the screen!

Move on to explore two different learning adventures with animated cartoon characters. Children who are learning to read will love the talking story where a mouse-click on the text will make the computer 'speak'.

Early Years is a multimedia wealth of text, colourful pictures, animation and sound to delight any child.

Software included: Talking StartWrite (word processor), Gemini (picture matching game), Amazing Maths (maths game), Doris the Dotty Dog (talking story), Paint Pot (painting resources), Mouse in Holland, Explore with Flossy the Frog, (interactive learning adventures), Audio Training Tape.

Talking StartWrite

StartWrite is a fully featured, but simple to use, word processing package with which children can start to develop keyboard skills and communicate their ideas in written form. As letters and words are typed, they can be spoken by the computer, thereby providing immediate stimulus and feedback to the child. Pictures created by a painting package can be dropped onto the page and writing added below. StartWrite also gives you an excellent home office.

Gemini

Shape and pattern matching is a key skill for young children. This fun-to-use game contains many different card sets, from simple shapes to photographic pictures, making it suitable for use with a wide age range.

Amazing Maths

Making maths fun is the best way to learn. Here you have to find your way through the maze while being posed arithmetic problems by the computer. You can decide the difficulty of the questions asked, both in terms of the numbers and operations used. Amazing Maths is the ideal way to reinforce basic mathematical skills.

Doris the Dotty Dog

Develop reading skills with the latest talking book technology. This 'talking story' - with still pictures and animations - concerns Doris, a well intentioned pet dog who never does anything right. The application can be used in several ways: by a teacher or helper with a child who is not yet reading, but who is looking at showing the words and seeing the animations; by children on their own developing their reading vocabulary - individual words may be spoken if they are not known; or by encouraging debate about why Doris did what she did and what the long-suffering family would have wanted her to do instead.

Paint Pot

Paint Pot is a book accompanied by a disc that explains how you can make the most of Paint, Acorn's art package. Simple examples of many of the program's facilities are given. Also included is a library of animals and sea creatures that can be used to create a jungle or an undersea picture. Ideas for lots of projects using Paint are provided - which should keep children fascinated for hours - with no risk of spilling paint on the floor!

Mouse in Holland

In a similar vein to Explore with Flossy the Frog, Mouse in Holland allows a child to explore the life of Martin Mouse, who lives in a windmill. Scenes include a Dutch countryside, canalside Amsterdam and an Art Gallery, as well as inside the windmill.

Explore with Flossy the Frog

Encourage children to Explore with Flossy the Frog, a graphical adventure where the child is in control of what happens. The delightful pictures encourage questions and the various objects in the pictures all have different actions and effects when clicked on.

The Sky Is Not the Limit!

A new generation of the most effective and easy-to-use educational software ever produced. Motivating children to reach for the sky.

Simplicity. Versatility. Affordability...

6 FEB 1996
6 AUG 1996
6 JAN 1997
6 APR 1997
6 OCT 1997

20/20 Finance - Clearly the Best Choice

(Interest Free! 20% deposit, 20 monthly payments)

System	Order Code	Processor	Memory	Disc	Warranty	Monitor	RRP	Deposit	20 monthly payments inc VAT
Early Years									
A3010 Early Years	ALC18	ARM250	2MB	Floppy	1year	Not inc	£399.00	N/A	N/A
A3010 Early Years with monitor	CL9601	ARM250	2MB	Floppy	1year	14"*	£599.00	N/A	N/A
A4000 Early Years system	AGC02/AKF53	ARM250	2MB	210MB	1year	14"*	£901.86	£180.28	£36.06
A4000 Early Years system	AGC02/AKF90	ARM250	2MB	210MB	1year	14"*	£948.87	£189.67	£37.96
Risc PC600 Early Years	ACB67/AKF60	ARM610	4MB	425MB	On site	14"	£1401.66	£280.28	£56.06
Risc PC600 Early Years	ACB67/AKF85	ARM610	4MB	425MB	On site	17"	£1728.51	£345.71	£69.14
Learning Curve									
A3010 Learning Curve	ALC17	ARM250	2MB	Floppy	1year	Not inc	£399.00	N/A	N/A
A3010 Learning Curve system	CL9602	ARM250	2MB	Floppy	1year	14"*	£599.00	N/A	N/A
A4000 Learning Curve system	AGC03/AKF53	ARM250	2MB	210MB	1year	14"*	£901.86	£180.37	£36.08
A4000 Learning Curve system	AGC03/AKF90	ARM250	2MB	210MB	1year	14"**	£948.87	£189.67	£37.96
Risc PC600 Learning Curve	ACB68/AKF60	ARM610	4MB	425MB	On site	14"	£1401.66	£280.28	£56.06
Risc PC600 Learning Curve	ACB68/AKF85	ARM610	4MB	425MB	On site	17"	£1728.51	£345.71	£69.14
Home Office									
A4000 Home Office system	AGC20/AKF53	ARM250	2MB	210MB	1year	14"*	£937.11	£187.33	£37.49
A4000 Home Office system	AGC20/AKF90	ARM250	2MB	210MB	1year	14"**	£984.13	£196.73	£39.37
Risc PC600 Home Office	ACB69/AKF60	ARM610	4MB	425MB	On site	14"	£1437.13	£287.33	£57.49
Risc PC600 Home Office	ACB69/AKF85	ARM610	4MB	425MB	On site	17"	£1764.78	£352.78	£70.93
Pocket Book									
Pocket Book II 256K	AHB05	NEC V30 A20C	256K			LCD	£240.96	N/A	N/A
Pocket Book II 512K	AHB06	NEC V30 A20C	512K			LCD	£299.63	N/A	N/A
Pocket Book II 1MB	AHB07	NEC V30 A20C	1MB			LCD	£356.88	N/A	N/A
A4000									
A4000 HD210 system	AGC50/AKF53	ARM250	2MB	210MB	1year	14"	£849.00	£169.80	£33.96
A4000 HD210 system	AGC50/AKF90	ARM250	2MB	210MB	1year	14"	£896.00	£179.20	£35.84
A7000									
A7000 2MB HD425	AMC00/AKF60	ARM7500	2MB	425MB	On site	14"	£1099.00	£219.80	£43.96
A7000 2MB HD425CD	AMC22/AKF60	ARM7500	2MB	425MB	On site	14"	£1225.41	£245.03	£49.01
A7000 4MB HD425	AMC03/AKF60	ARM7500	4MB	425MB	On site	14"	£1199.00	£239.80	£47.96
A7000 4MB HD425CD	AMC23/AKF60	ARM7500	4MB	425MB	On site	14"	£1325.41	£265.03	£53.01
Risc PC600									
Risc PC600 4M HD425	ACB60/AKF60	ARM610	4MB	425MB	On site	14"	£1349.05	£269.80	£53.96
Risc PC600 4M HD425CD	ACB61/AKF60	ARM610	4MB	425MB	On site	14"	£1479.41	£295.81	£59.16
Risc PC600 4M HD425	ACB60/AKF85	ARM610	4MB	425MB	On site	17"	£1625.65	£336.05	£67.01
Risc PC600 4M HD425CD	ACB61/AKF85	ARM610	4MB	425MB	On site	17"	£1906.08	£361.28	£72.24
Risc PC700									
Risc PC700 8M HD425	ACB70/AKF60	ARM710	8MB	425MB	On site	14"	£1599.00	£319.80	£63.96
Risc PC700 8M HD425CD	ACB71/AKF60	ARM710	8MB	425MB	On site	14"	£1727.41	£345.03	£69.16

* 14" Medium Core resolution with a dot pitch of 0.39 (AKF59). ** 14" Fine Core resolution with a dot pitch of 0.28 (AKF85).

Payment terms are available to customers subject to credit status. Written quotations are available APR 0%. All leasing arrangements are subject to Acorn Adder or Gold Access management fee and £12.50 D.

All The minimum hire amount is £1000. If you a current Acorn or purchase or lease agreement review, and may use a leasing option to bring the new value to a new lease.

Reach for the Stars

Why Choose the New A7000 from Acorn?

Simplicity

- ★ A7000 offers children the easiest computer interface with 'drag and drop' capability
- ★ A7000 exploits the latest RISC OS - a powerful, multitasking operating system, tried and tested by millions of users
- ★ A7000 delivers a wealth of powerful applications

Versatility

- ★ A7000 integral CD-ROM drive option offers a professional way to access CD resources
- ★ A7000 quality screen images at the highest resolutions and with the greatest colour depths
- ★ A7000 high-performance CD-quality 16-bit stereo sound as standard

Affordability

★ A7000 increases the choice of price and performance options for all schools

★ A7000 larger hard disc and memory capability are an investment in running the best software both now and in the future

★ A7000 is available on a flexible finance scheme covering computers

The A7000 range demonstrates Acorn's commitment to helping parents ensure that children have access to the most advanced technology, at an affordable price.

ut it is also a powerful
at you work through the
for real. If you are an
ou will find much familiar
end working through the
in the User Guide that
accompanies this software. Examples of the tutorial
output may be found in directory "Examples".

Putting Your Children on the Road to Success

So now you've seen why Acorn computers have been chosen in nine out of ten UK schools for their ease of use, their versatility, their power.

Acorns are used in the most amazing places! Acorn computers are the only computers endorsed by the Pre-school Learning Alliance, and are used in many pre-schools, playgroups and nurseries to help teach children as young as 18 months! At the other end of the scale, the power of RISC OS is used in research, finance, music, graphics - the list is endless!

So What Now?
Pick up the phone and talk to one of our experts. They'll be able to recommend the best Acorn computer for you and your child.

Parents and guardians all over the UK are finding that now is the best time ever to enter the world of Acorn - for themselves and for their children's future.

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