

Key term

Data

Data is information that has been coded and structured in some way, ready for processing, storage, transmission, etc. Data has no context and has no meaning. Examples of data could include: shoe size stored in the stock database of a shop, a date, etc.

Global divide

The divide that exists in terms of access to information between different countries and different types of holders of information across the world.

Green IT

The practice of reducing energy use by IT equipment and thus improving sustainability. This relates to both individuals and organisations. The main purpose of Green IT is to increase the sustainability of IT equipment and operations. Examples of Green IT range from an individual using their PC power settings to automatically switch off the screen after a certain time with no keyboard/mouse activity, up to the virtualisation of a large, global organisation's data stores to reduce the number of servers in their data centres.

Holder of information

Any individual or organisation that holds information.

Information

Information is data that has been given context and meaning in some way (e.g. by processing, storing or transmission). An example of information is: a shop receipt showing the model, price and size of shoes, together with the time and date of the purchase.

Information formats

The different ways in which information can be presented using world wide web (www) technologies. Examples of information formats are: web pages; RSS feeds; podcasts; blogs; and social media channels.

Information style

The style of information, regardless of the technology used. For example, the audio information style could be represented by spoken instructions, an MP3 music file, a DVD soundtrack or a podcast. Many, but not all, of the information styles will have a corresponding information format on the world wide web.