

7th November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Year 8 e-Learning – Tablets

This half term the school will be issuing every student in Year 8 with their own smart tablet device. Tablet technology offers our students to learn with the aid of technology, whilst also promoting independence and engagement in their subjects.

We recognise that the development of independent learning habits is critical to student success and that by having easy access to digital technology, students can use the varied learning tools and online resources available to help them reach their full potential.

Teachers may upload resources to Google Classroom or push these out to student devices during lessons so that they can be accessed at any time. Assessment apps will allow for in-class testing with immediate feedback and tracking of student progress, whilst also offering students a more interactive format. Accelerated Reader and Star Reader are included to support students' engagement with literacy and further develop a passion for reading. Furthermore, the device presents huge opportunities for exciting and productive activities in lessons across the curriculum as well as enabling more effective home study and better communication between teachers and students.

Security

The device will be issued in a case which protects the tablet from the front and back. The tablet must not be removed from the case at any time. Students will be given clear advice by their teachers about how to look after their device in school and on the way to and from school.

Web Security and device management

The device will be managed at all times through Mobile Guardian. Mobile Guardian ensures the school will always maintain full control of the device, including access to apps and web filtering both in school and at home. The camera will initially be unavailable but may be activated at a later date if required in school. This device is for educational purposes only and therefore students will not have access to anything not related to education such as social media platforms.

Importance of devices to learning

Devices will be used very regularly throughout the school day and it is vital that all students bring their devices fully charged to school every day. Lessons will be planned and delivered on the assumption that students have their devices and those who do not will miss out on key elements of their learning. We will support students in establishing good routines but it is also important that parents help us to do this.

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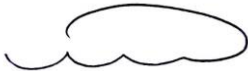
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Attached to this email you will find an information booklet, detailing different aspects of this new scheme, which I ask that you read with your child. Below is a user agreement form which is required to be signed by all parents and carers prior to students being given a device. Please complete this form by Tuesday 14th November.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BGSRM07JpEj8049D7QD5fWudHBFCO9 - R5kiKxRGySU/edit#responses](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BGSRM07JpEj8049D7QD5fWudHBFCO9-R5kiKxRGySU/edit#responses)

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, rounded loop at the top and several smaller, connected loops below it.

Mr M Littleford
Assistant Head Teacher