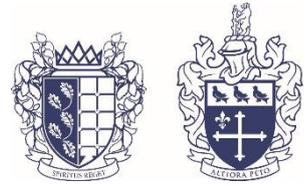


SELECTING & PURCHASING A BYOD DEVICE



Why BYOD?

First and foremost the introduction of the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Scheme is about the pupils' learning and achievement. It is not about the technology. BYOD means that the focus is on task and output rather than the brand of device, and we are mindful that pupils may well already have devices which are suitable for accessing technology in school.

We believe strongly that devices will enhance the excellent teaching and learning that is already happening in our classrooms, rather than replace it. It is not our intention to move away from the more "traditional" methods of learning, but to provide access to the most appropriate method for each learning activity – using technology alongside class discussion, written and practical work.

Our pupils are living in a world where access to technology as an aid to learning is becoming more and more important, as is digital competency in the world beyond school, for which we want to prepare them as fully as possible. Appropriate, and safe, use of technology will allow the pupils to get the most from an already rich curriculum. In recent years there has been a huge increase in the quality and availability of electronic educational resources, and we use these extensively at school. From subject-specific packages like Linguascope (MFL), Digital Theatre (Drama) and ArcGIS (a Geography package) through to the increasing amount of material shared online by our teaching staff, these resources enhance every pupil's learning.

For many learning activities pupils relate to – and enjoy – using contemporary technology both at home and at school. However, they also need guidance and support to use this technology constructively and safely, and to make considered choices. We believe that the benefits of accessing enhanced technology for our pupils are powerful, but equally important is the time we invest to educate the pupils on becoming digitally literate and digitally safe throughout their time at school.

Specification of devices

There is a minimum specification that device must meet in order for the technology to best support the teaching and learning in the classroom, and the ever-advancing software that staff and pupils can benefit from harnessing. Whilst we do support a number range of devices on the BYOD programme, **we highly recommend use of a Windows device** for the easiest integration with the core suite of software that we use in school. For pupils studying **Music GCSE or A level**, they will require a Windows device in order to support the music composition software used by the department. Further details and an explanation of the device specification can be found on the school website. We recognise that some pupils may already have a device that is new but which might not fully meet our specification guidance. In this instance, please do get in contact with the school and we will be able to discuss a plan to best support you and your child in the interim period whilst an appropriate device is sought.

Optional Purchasing through a school recommended supplier

A range of devices are available to purchase through our school recommended supplier, LEAD IT Services. The Foundation and LEAD have aimed to provide a scheme through which you can purchase technology that allows your child to make the most of their studies, but at the most affordable price possible, which we hope will bring some

peace of mind. There is the option to pay for the device upfront, or to use the option to “Pay in 3” with Paypal. Details of these devices and the payment options can all be found, year-round, on the dedicated portal page:

<https://www.warwickschoolsbyod.co.uk/>

Dell Advantage Scheme

Whilst the school has arranged competitive pricing for some models through LEAD IT Services, families can purchase any device that meets the minimum specification. If you happen to be looking at a Dell device, then do note that you may be able to take advantage of the Dell Advantage Scheme for students, where up to 20% can be saved on a device. All you need is a school email address to register and claim your voucher. Details of the scheme can be found [here](#).

Installation of software on the device

All pupils new to the BYOD scheme will receive a “BYOD introductory lesson” in the first days of September, to ensure that they can successfully access the core school applications. We have also posted a support guide on the school BYOD webpage that explains where to access the core/required software and how to install it. Apart from these core software applications, your child is free to install any legal software on their machine, although we would recommend that this is kept to a minimum in order to ensure the continued effective use of the device.

Accessories for the device

Of course, to access and make the most of the inking functionality of the device, a **stylus** is a requirement for the device.

A set of **headphones** (any variety including small “in-ear” headphones) will be needed with the device in school so that pupils can watch and listen to audio and video files. They will be especially useful in languages lessons for example, where listening and speaking exercises will be used regularly.

We would **highly recommend that your child keeps her device in a protective case** to limit the risk of damage.

Insuring the device

The 3-year warranty, provided in the price for the machines above, **does not cover accidental damage and so parents may wish to ensure that the device is covered by a third-party insurance product**. This may be your home insurance, or you may want to choose specific, device-related cover. Alternatively, you may wish to look at Gadget Insurance as an option – please see the end of this guide for further details.

Keeping your child safe on the internet

As part of our commitment to helping your child develop their digital literacy skills, we will be providing a range of learning activities focused on the safe, effective use of their device. In addition, the school implements a range of security features that aim to protect them whilst they are using the device on the school network.

Frequently asked questions

When should we buy a device for our child?

The school's purchasing portal is open throughout the year, should you wish to purchase one of these devices. We would recommend that your child has their device over the summer holidays in order for them to become comfortable using it. It would also afford them time to set up the core applications which will be needed for their school work.

To ensure that the device arrives in time for the start of the academic year, we recommend that you order your device by the start of the summer at the latest, especially given the current international shortages in tech.

Will the portal remain open to buy a device next year?

Yes, the portal will remain open throughout the year so that families can purchase devices as they are required.

What happens if the laptop is stolen or damaged?

We aim to teach your child how to look after their device and keep it safe. Nevertheless, accidents happen, and it will be important that our pupils have access to a device. We have devices available during school hours that can be used by your child if there is an issue with their device, and there are desktop devices available around the school that compliment this provision.

What core apps need to be installed on my daughter's device and where can I get these from?

Central to the BYOD programme are the Office 365 suite of applications which are available via the web browser. However, you can install the core Office 365 apps (such as Word, Excel and PowerPoint) on to your child's device from their school Office account. Their school account allows for the **FREE** installation of the **Office suite** on to a maximum of 5 devices. Most other apps will be available through our Classlink platform. Details of all core apps that must be installed and how to install them, along with help guides to support you and your child, are available on the BYOD page of the school's website.

Can I install additional software on to the machine?

Yes, the device belongs to you. The aim of the BYOD programme is to enable your child to develop their use of digital devices in ways that best support them and their individual learning.

Can I buy a laptop from the high street or online instead?

Yes. You are free to purchase and use any device that meets our minimum device specification. One of the drivers for our move to a true BYOD programme is the recognition that every pupil is an individual, with their own needs and interests that may require a different type of device to the ones we have recommended above.

Optional Gadget Insurance

Optional Gadget Insurance offers protection for multiple devices, like smartphones, laptops and tablets for the cover of theft, loss (this may cost extra), mechanical breakdown, and accidental damage, including liquid damage and cracked screens

If you decide to purchase optional gadget insurance, check to see if you are already covered by:

- **Your contents insurance:** If you have worldwide accidental damage cover, your device may be protected when it is out of your home.
- **The manufacturer's warranty:** If you only want to protect against mechanical breakdown and your device is still under warranty, the manufacturer will pay for repairs or replacement if they stop working.
- **Your packaged bank account:** If you have a reward bank account, check if it comes with basic insurance for your mobile device.

If your gadgets are already insured on another policy, check you have the protection you want. For example, some policies do not cover accidental damage.