



Church of England School
Headteacher: Mr A J Wilcock MA (Cantab)

10th May 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

Bring Your Own Device

As we approach the summer and the implementation of our new Bring Your Own Device policy, I thought it would be useful to resend the guidance that we sent out at Christmas around the type of device that would be suitable for your son/daughter to bring in to school in September.

In the prospectus and the Headteacher's talk when your son/daughter was in Year 6, we referred to a new Bring Your Own Device policy which your son/daughter will be the first to benefit from at Bishop Ramsey. This policy requires all Year 8 students in September to bring to school a digital device for use in lessons; staff are at present including the use of devices in their Year 8 schemes of work and, in training sessions, are looking at innovative and exciting ways of making use of this facility. I would like to assure you that the devices will be used judiciously and sparingly in lessons for activities which would otherwise not be possible and will not be used as a replacement for exercise books and handwriting. We will be launching a package called 'Skooler' which will give access for all students to the Microsoft Office 365 suite of programs, both inside and outside school.

We have specifically moved away from what is called a 'one-to-one' programme where every child in school has the same device and we have tried to provide as much flexibility as possible. Therefore the requirements are fairly limited. The most important requirements are that the device has a good battery life of around 8 hours so that it can be used throughout the day and that it allows Internet access. Consideration should be given as to whether the device should have an integrated or an additional keyboard to allow completion of relatively long written work which can be difficult without a keyboard.

- We would recommend a sturdy case to transport the device to school (e.g. the Griffin Survivor or Otterbox Defender series)
- Parents are advised to have insurance/accidental damage cover for the device. This may already be covered under your home contents policy
- The best deals on suitable devices are constantly changing so it is impossible for us to recommend a specific device from a specific vendor. Two retailers that are used by schools for equipment are ebuyer.com and dabs.com. John Lewis and Currys PC World can offer personal service and good warranty cover
- If you qualify for the pupil premium and do not have a suitable device then there is some assistance available. Please contact Mr Britton on mbritton12.312@lgflmail.org.



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If your son/daughter already has a suitable device:

Minimum Standards for Devices

Key Stage 3/4

- At least a 7" screen
- At least an 8 hour battery life
- Wireless networking and internet
- Still and video camera recording facility
- At least 32Gb of storage preferably
- iOS v10+, Android Jelly Bean 4.1+, Windows 10 preferred.

Typical devices that would be suitable would be any Apple iPad higher than version 1 (mini, 2, retina, air etc.), popular Android tablets such as Google Nexus, Samsung Galaxy, Tesco Hudl. Some students have opted for Windows tablets (e.g. Acer Iconia Tab 8), Chromebooks or hybrid tablets with detachable keyboards.

If you have any questions regarding the implementation of this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school email address, office@bishopramseyschool.org, or Mr Burchell, our IT manager, on ITservices@bishoprimeyschool.org.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Poole', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr D Poole
Senior Assistant Headteacher