

## Frequently Asked Questions

### *Do I need to buy a new device for my daughter?*

All girls will need to bring a device to school from September 2019. Some girls will already have a suitable device that they can bring in to school. We have provided some indicative specifications for different types of devices for families buying a new device. However, we have worked with our school supplier to provide purchasing options which may be of interest to some parents. Details of these options can be found on the BYOD page of the school's website.

### *What financial options are there for purchasing a device?*

We have worked with our school supplier to provide purchasing options at discounted educational rates on two recommended devices. There is also an option to purchase a 3 year warranty for the device. Whilst the school has arranged competitive pricing for these recommended models through System Active and HP, families will be purchasing devices directly with System Active and therefore the contract is between you and System Active and not with the school itself. If you still wish to purchase a device online or from the high street, that is fine so long as it meets the device specification.

### *Will there be some recommended devices?*

Through our recommended school supplier we are providing the option to purchase one of two HP devices that will allow your daughter to access the core toolset of skills and applications that she will be using across the curriculum.

### *What if our daughter has a laptop that we only recently bought and which meets all the specification points but is not touchscreen?*

We recognise that this is a huge change process for the school and that some girls will already have a device that is very new. Girls in this situation can bring in their current device, provided that the rest of the specification is met (eg. screen size, keyboard, etc). We would then ask that when her device comes to the end of its lifetime, that the replacement then does meet the specification guidelines. Once the BYOD programme is fully up and running, every girl should have devices that meet the specification requirements so that they all benefit equally from the classroom activities. In the interim, we will support those girls with non-touchscreen devices as best we can, giving access to shared school devices where possible for that lesson.

### *Do we need to buy a device for our daughter who will be in Year 13 next year, when she already has a device?*

We recognise that girls currently in Year 13 will only be at King's for one more year. All girls will still be required to bring a device to school, and some families may choose to invest in a device that will also last them in to their university years. However, if a girl in Year 13 next year does already have a device that meets nearly all the specification but is, for example, not touchscreen, then she can use this device as part of the BYOD programme for her final year. Any device your daughter does bring in must meet the key requirements such as screen size and keyboard for example.

### *Why is touchscreen an essential feature?*

We have been piloting devices with touchscreens, and digital pens, over the last 12 months and their use has proved most effective and transformational in the classroom. Indeed, touchscreens for general purpose devices are now becoming commonplace rather than exceptional. Be it drawing atomic structures in Chemistry, composing music on a staff, annotating and analysing maps in Geography or peer and self-assessing their work, the possibilities across the curriculum are endless and we are continuing to identify new ways in which the technology can be used to the benefit of the learning in the classroom.

### *How will the device be connected to the school network?*

The girls devices will be connected to the school's dedicated BYOD WIFI network, separate from the school's core WIFI network. Your daughter will receive an email, to her school email address, explaining how her device can be connected to the BYOD network. The email will contain a link to a web page that will allow her to download and install the software required to enable her device to connect to the network. She should install this software at home so that she is ready to use the network. There will be support available for the girls through this set up process, both in BYOD introductory

sessions and via help guides that we will be providing. Support will also be provided by the IT Department for any girls who experience issues trying to log on to the school network using their personal device.

#### *Will the device be used in every class?*

We always aim to provide your daughter with an effective learning environment where different learning and teaching activities are used to help your daughter achieve. This means that the BYOD device will be used for some, but not all, lessons. 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.

#### *Where should work be saved?*

We already provide access to Microsoft Office365 and your daughter should save her work within the Office365 OneDrive space which provides more than enough space for her school work. This cloud space is available to all girls from in school and from home, regardless of the device that they are working on.

#### *How will we try to ensure Safe use of devices?*

We already have a clear and unambiguous Acceptable Use Policy and this still applies when a personal device is being used. Also, as part of the process that accepts your daughter's device onto the school network, we will install software that aims to keep the device secure and monitor use of the device whilst it is on the school network.

#### *Where will the device be kept when not in use?*

Your daughter has a locker in which she can keep the device (preferably in a carrying case) when not in use during the school day (eg. break times or when at clubs/activities). During PE and Games lessons, girls have a locker in the PE department that they can store their device in during these lessons. For after school practices at the games fields, the pavilion changing rooms will be locked by the PE staff during practices.

#### *How will we help to keep the girls and their devices safe outside school?*

The school already takes personal security very seriously with regards the girls' use of mobile phones outside school. As we already do, we will continue to work hard to educate the girls not to have their devices out on display outside school and that they should be tucked away in their bags at all times (including train journeys for example).

#### *How will a device affect the weight of the girls' school bags?*

We expect the weight of the girls' bags to decrease with the introduction of the BYOD scheme as departments move to digital/online textbooks. Schools who are further down the line with BYOD have also found this to be the case.

#### *What support will there be should my daughter have a technical issue with her device?*

Should your daughter have a technical issue with her device in school, we will provide her with a loan device that she can use until the device is repaired so that she can still access all the lesson activities.

#### *What about insurance?*

The school insurance cover for personal possessions is limited to £250 per article. However, if the device is insured elsewhere (eg. with your home insurance) then your daughter's device will not be covered by the school insurance policy. The school insurers recommend that parents insure their devices under their home insurance (or indeed check whether they are already covered). We are also investigating whether there is an insurance option that we can offer parents as part of any device purchasing schemes (see earlier FAQs).

### Contacting the school for further information

If you do have any queries that have not been answered here, then please do get in touch using the following email address: [byod@kingshighwarwick.co.uk](mailto:byod@kingshighwarwick.co.uk)