



21st June 2021

Year 8 iPad programme

Dear Parents/ Carers

Following 10 successful years as a leading worldwide school for digital technology and 1:1 iPad use, we are delighted and excited to announce that we are now expanding our programme to cover all year groups from September 2021.

The aim of the iPad programme is to equip every student with the tools and resources needed to support learning in the 21st Century, as well as supporting the integration of key digital skills (including problem solving, digital literacy and creativity) across the curriculum. The use and integration of digital technologies is central to this program. We believe it can significantly improve access to learning resources and study skills of our students, as we saw recently during the Covid-19 crisis and lockdown.

During the first few weeks of the new Academic year, in September, the Academy will provide all Year 8 students with access to an Apple iPad (32GB Education model) as their personal digital device. Students will be able to retain the iPad assigned to them until the completion of their courses in Year 11 (June 2025), after which time they will have the option to either return the device or purchase it outright for its residual value. They will also be able to continue to use them if they stay on as part of the Sixth Form

The academy will also provide students with a case, a stylus, a managed Apple ID with 200GB of free iCloud storage and access to digital study resources and tools that can be used both in and out of the academy, as well as providing a managed wireless infrastructure for internet access. Profiling will be used to initially set up the iPad and restrict access of apps to age-appropriate use, with an intelligent 'agent' profile that will monitor and filter internet use, both in and out of the academy. See www.deferrers.com/ipad for more information and details.

The cost of the programme will be £68 per student annually, equivalent to less than £1.75 per school week, cheaper than almost any other school. Payments for iPads must be made via Wisepay - if you have any problems accessing Wisepay please contact us by emailing office@deferrers.com.

For students who are entitled to Free School Meals (or have received them during the last 6 years) the academy will use its Pupil Premium funding to ensure access for all. To check for Free School Meals eligibility you can apply using the following link: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/link2ict>. We would encourage all parents to register using the link whether they believe themselves to be eligible or not as it will continue to check for a change in circumstances and apply funding as appropriate.

Please complete the enclosed iPad Agreement and Acceptable Use Policy and return it to KS3 Support & Guidance by Thursday 2nd September 2021. Please note - students must pay via Wisepay and return the signed agreement before they can receive their iPad.

If you have any queries or questions regarding this, please contact Mrs Tunstall.

Yours sincerely

Mr G Hughes
Vice Principal (Learning Technologies)

Mrs C Tunstall
Head of Year 8

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS/CARERS

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