



Bottisham Village College

Achievement through Inspiring, Caring, Enriching

Principal: Mrs Jenny Rankine M.Ed LLCM

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DFU/bg

October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Technology Strategy – Providing iPads to Year 11 Students

Summary of action(s) required

For information only

iPad devices will be loaned to Year 11 after their mock exams, as part of our technology strategy.

Over the last two academic years, we initiated a small pilot to explore how iPads can be used on a 1:1 basis to support students' learning. This pilot involved 70 students using iPads within Science and Music and taking them home to complete homework. Students in the pilot also used devices to undertake and complete assessments and support their revision for assessments and mock exams.

We have now collected evidence from this pilot scheme by looking at the progress students made in their learning and by surveying and interviewing the students and their teachers involved in the pilot. Students' responses have been overwhelmingly positive, and they feel using the device had supported their learning and independence.

We have also explored the evidence from education research and the impact the 1:1 initiative has had on the educational experience and outcomes of students in local schools who have been using iPads for some time. If you would like to explore education research yourself, we recommend starting with the Education Endowment Foundation Report into using digital technology to support learning. Follow the [link](#).

We believe that in the future, if all students have access to a device on a 1:1 basis, together with our robust curriculum will allow teachers to utilise the most impactful teaching methods in an environment that connects students with teachers with 21st Century skills. As a result, we believe that learning will become more continuous and extend far beyond the classroom.

Bottisham Village College is an educational community that continuously seeks new opportunities to enhance our students' learning as well as to increase their joy and engagement in the educational process. We believe that having access to this technology will provide opportunities for students to collaborate more and be more creative with the ways in which they learn and demonstrate their learning.





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In summary, we believe that all students having access to a device, which they can borrow, to use in school and at home, will bring the following benefits:

- To provide equity for all students, and close the attainment gap
- To enhance teaching and learning in every classroom
- To prepare learners for the 21st-century workplace
- Extend learning beyond the classroom
- To nurture curiosity, cultivate creativity and inspire success

Providing all students with a secure, managed device will require a significant amount of capital investment. We had planned, to launch this initiative with Year 7 and 8 this year, and overtime provide new year groups joining the school will devices until every student has one. Unfortunately, the recent financial crisis has provided uncertainty for the future, and it is unlikely we will be able to commit our school budget to provide future year groups with iPads in the medium term. However, we are committed to continuing this project and developing our curriculum and pedagogy utilising the benefits of technology. We have therefore decided that the iPads we committed to purchasing this academic year will go to Year 11.

Year 11 students will therefore benefit from having access to applications and resources to support their preparation for exams.

Later this academic year, we are hoping to extend the rollout to Year 10. These devices will remain within the upper school, so students moving up into Years 10 and 11 will receive the benefit of a loaned school iPad.

We will be in touch with Year 11 parents separately, with more information about this scheme after their mock exams have finished.

Kind regards

Mr D Fullman
Deputy Principal