



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

30th November 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

Bring Your Own Device

In the prospectus and during the Headteacher's talk when your son/daughter visited the school while 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.

As Christmas is approaching and some families will be considering the purchase of a device which could be used in school, we have been asked to give some guidance about the type of device that will be appropriate. 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. As a result 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 included 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 via email on mbritton12.312@lgfmail.org.

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



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- 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.

We are putting in place teaching for the current Year 7 students to ensure that students know how to search the Internet and properly reference their sources.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mr Burchell, our IT Manager, on ITservices@bishoprainsbury.org if you have any questions regarding the implementation of this initiative.

Yours faithfully,

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

Mr D Poole
Senior Assistant Headteacher