

AHI/et

13th July 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

iPad Digital Learning Devices

As you may have already heard from your son or daughter, we are introducing iPads for all students in Year 7-11 from September 2018 at absolutely no cost to families. This powerful technology will transform aspects of our teaching and learning and will provide fantastic support for our students. Students will be expected to have their iPad for every lesson and take their device home each evening to facilitate independent study outside of the classroom. Devices, with chargers, will be issued at the start of the new term and we will then have a period of training the students to get the maximum benefit from their new digital pencil case. Students will be expected to use in-ear headphones with their iPad when needed in lessons; we would prefer students to use their own in-ear headphones if they already own them. Alternatively, the Academy will purchase cheap non-Apple headphones for those students who do not currently own a pair.

Teachers will gradually introduce new ways of using this technology, alongside other traditional teaching methods, within lessons to complement learning – the iPad will not replace pens and exercise books but will be used to make delivery of content more interactive and engaging while increasing teaching efficiency. Ultimately, we believe bringing this 21st century learning into the Academy will improve outcomes whilst also preparing students for the technological world in which they live and will work in.

The Academy has made a significant investment in this project, at absolutely no cost to families, as we strongly believe that all of our students deserve equal access to this exciting opportunity. The iPads will be the property of the Academy, provided by a leasing programme to us, but given to each student for their time here at All Saints. At the end of Year 11 students will return their device to us as part of their leavers process and they will then be used for future students.

While we expect students to be respectful and careful with their devices, accidents may happen and we have therefore ensured that appropriate insurance is in place for any damage or theft. The Academy will replace or repair devices at no cost to parents on the first occasion, however if there is persistent or irreparable damage then parents would be expected to pay for any further repairs; this could range from £30-£200 depending on the damage caused. Please note that repair or replacement of damaged iPads will be entirely at the Academy's discretion. We advise students to ensure that they bring their iPad to and from school in a suitable bag, which keeps the device hidden, to minimise the risk of any theft. **If the device is stolen or lost the Academy will remotely disable the iPad so that it is completely unusable and worthless.**

The iPad devices are intended for educational purposes and are therefore completely managed by the Academy IT Support Team. This means that apps will be selected, paid for and downloaded by the Academy based on their benefit to learning or applicability to a subject area. Students will not be able to change their Apple ID or download any apps themselves. Students will be able to access all of the apps the Academy has downloaded for educational purposes at home by linking to your Wi-Fi internet.

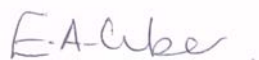
Parents should be aware that while your child is using the internet at home on their iPad their access to appropriate content will depend on your home Wi-Fi settings. Therefore, we advise checking your current Wi-Fi settings before iPads are released in September to ensure that inappropriate content is filtered out. When using iPad devices in school, students will be managed in the same way that they are currently when using ICT suites; website content will be filtered appropriately, activity will be monitored if necessary and any technical difficulties will be dealt with by ICT support. We have taken all of these steps to ensure student e-safety and that an educational focus remains while still utilising the creative aspects of the iPad technology.

We hope that as parents/carers you are excited for your child to have this outstanding opportunity to integrate a personal device into their studies. The devices will be issued to students on the first week back in September during their form time. However, in order to receive the device at this time, both students and parents/carers must have read, discussed and signed the attached Acceptable Student Use Agreement and iPad Damage Procedure which must be returned to Student Reception by Wednesday 18th July 2018.

New technologies continue to play an important part in transforming teaching and learning. As always seems to be the case, technology continues to develop and we strive to stay current and up to date to take advantage of these educational opportunities. As these developments happen we will replace student devices with newer models, as well as update software, to ensure that we are utilising all available new technologies.

If you have any concerns or need further explanation regarding the iPads, we ask that you contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance. Alternatively, you may contact Mr Hide who has co-ordinated the implementation of the iPads.

Yours faithfully



Liz Furber
Executive Principal