



13th June 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

**Blended Learning at Stanborough School
(Bring Your Own Device and 1:1 Digital Device Purchase Scheme)**

'Technology alone will not improve education, but it can be a powerful part of the solution'
(Sundar Pichai, CEO Google).

As teachers and parents, we are also continuously looking at ways to equip our young people with the opportunities and tools to grow and shape their future. To support this, from September 2022 we will be building on the skills students developed in their online learning as we introduce our 'Bring your own device' (BYOD) programme and supplement it with a '1:1 Digital Device' purchase scheme for students.

Alongside this letter, you will find all the information that you need about the BYOD programme and 1:1 Digital Device Purchase Scheme, which together fall under the umbrella term of Blended Learning. This simply means that as we move forwards into this new exciting stage of development in teaching and learning at Stanborough School, we will be using a blend of digital methods and traditional teaching methods to provide the highest standard of education.

Research conducted by the Education Endowment Fund (EEF) shows that if used in lessons in the right way, students who have access to digital devices to support their learning make great gains in their learning. We have been talking with parents, carers, schools, students and staff over the past few months to gather as much intelligence as possible about the variety of different methods employed and their effectiveness. Many schools already have such a strategy and enjoy its embedded practice already.

1:1 Digital Device Purchase Scheme

From our exhaustive research, and having driven hard for the best possible prices, Stanborough has identified a provider for its digital device purchase scheme. In order to provide seamless access to technology, we have partnered with Freedom Tech and their Tech 4 Learners 1:1 device programme. In response to parental concerns over the affordability of a lease-purchase scheme, we propose to offer an option of laptops to parents. In the case of both laptops, parents have the option to pay for the device outright, either on the high street or through the scheme, or through a repayment plan. The repayment plans range from 1 to 3 years.

Option A - **Acer TMB311-31 CLN4120 4GB/64GB W10P (non-touch screen)**

Outright cost: £406.01

Repayment cost per month:

- 12 months: £35.29
- 24 months: £18.49
- 36 months: £12.87

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Option B - Acer TMB311RN-31 PN5030 4GB/128GB W10P (touch screen)

Outright cost: £538.05

Repayment cost per month:

- 12 months: £46.55
- 24 months: £24.32
- 36 months: £16.88

In response to parental feedback, we also thought it was important to clarify what parents are paying for, if they choose to purchase their child's device through the scheme. With a regular shop-bought laptop, you will usually have a 1yr warranty that covers defects only. With the scheme offered through the school, you will have:

- Device and case
- 3 years extended warranty
- 3 years Freedom Tech repair service (unlimited claims and zero excess)
- Labelled with the students names & recording of serial numbers before devices arrive at the school for extra security

Extended warranty and accidental damage and theft cover is sometimes available on the high street, but these securities will typically cost another £20-£30 and £50-£70 respectively, making the total cost of the laptop comparable with the equivalent scheme cost. For parents who do not feel 'tech savvy' and want peace of mind, as well as those who want the extended warranty and cover but cannot afford the outright cost of these, this scheme is ideal. Another benefit of entering the scheme, over buying a device from the high street, is that there is no credit check. It is also worth stating that Stanborough School does not stand to profit in any way from offering the lease-purchase scheme. The school is only acting as a host for the online ordering portal.

Orders can be place via a dedicated Stanborough School portal at the following link:

<https://www.tech4learners.co.uk/users/login>

Username: StanB2022

Password: S3cure02!

The portal will close on 10th July 2022 in order to guarantee delivery for the end of September, when we will officially launch blended Learning with year 7. It will not be possible to guarantee September delivery after that date.

We are fully committed to removing any challenges or barriers to students accessing learning. For students who are currently in receipt of Free School Meals or have received Free School Meals at any point in the past six years, we may be able to use Pupil Premium funding to support our loan device scheme. We will also consider applications based on financial hardship.

For further information, and an application form, please email us at byod@stanborough.herts.sch.uk by Friday 24th June 2022.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Z Armitage
Deputy Headteacher

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