* Students will receive logins in form time in September.
* Tutors will initially provide instruction for Google Classroom and SMHW, as well as general safety advice and routines.
* The range of applications and websites used will increase throughout the year, once the basic routines and use are embedded in lessons.
* Some apps will be subject specific and some will be used across the school.
* The use in lessons may fluctuate throughout the year, with some subjects using specifically for a project, and others using every week.

**Rationale**

**Induction and Lesson Use**

We live in a world with ever-changing technology and advances, and we believe that developing this technological fluency is a key aspect of modern education.

A tablet device is most suitable for the task complexity and duration that students will encounter in Key Stage 3. With proper care, a good device should last for several years, allowing your son to use this throughout his time at Verulam.

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**Blended Learning**

* Combines online educational opportunities with traditional classroom methods.
* Enhances learning in the classroom and at home.
* Used where technology will have a positive impact on the lesson.
* Can increase student engagement through a variety of activities.
* Opportunity for personalised learning and tailored resources in the case of SEND pupils.

**Buying Your Device**

The latest deals and offers from retailers change so often that it is impossible for us to recommend one particular device. The guide below outlines the minimum expectations for each device - we recommend you check with your retailer if unsure.

**Minimum Specification**

* At least a 7″ screen
* At least a 5-hour battery life
* Wireless networking and internet
* Still and video camera recording facility
* At least 16Gb of storage
* At least iOS v11, Android 9 (Android Pie)

**Typical devices that would be suitable: Apple Ipad, Google Nexus, Samsung Galaxy, Asus ZenPad 8S or 10 inch version.**

**Insurance & Protection**

Please note that student owned devices are not covered by the school’s insurance policy.

Many retailers offer accidental damage insurance cover when selling devices which we recommend considering. There are also dedicated specialist websites which offer cover for devices (for example www.protectyourbubble.com). You may want to check the details of your home contents insurance before buying this to see what is covered.

We also advise buying a sturdy protective case for each device. Griffin Survivor and Otterbox Defender cases come highly recommended from other schools.

**Security & Safety**

* All Year 7s have lockers in their form rooms.
* Students will be responsible for ensuring their device is stored securely at break and lunch so that no accidental damage occurs.
* Students will use the school WiFi and thus be subject to the school’s internet filtering system. 3G/4G will not be enabled during school time.

**Screen Time**

We understand that there may be some concerns regarding an increased amount of screen time. The blended learning approach will ensure that ample time remains dedicated to literacy and handwritten work.

**Behaviour & Misuse**

* Students are responsible for taking their device home and charging each evening. Uncharged devices will be treated in the same way as being unequipped for learning.
* Minor behaviour infringements (e.g. playing on the device at an inappropriate time) will be dealt with through standard classroom management procedures, similar to if a student was doodling or distracted.
* More serious violations (e.g taking photos of students or staff) will be dealt with according to the school behaviour policy.

**Acceptable Use Policy**

All students and parents will be required to sign an acceptable use policy in September.

**Contact**

Please direct any queries, including financial, to our Director of Teaching & Learning, Miss Rosler, using the email address below.

BYOD@verulam.herts.sch.uk