* Students will receive GSuite logins from their form tutors in September.
* Google Classroom and SMHW will be used across the school.
* Subject teachers will provide instructions for individual subject websites and applications.
* Some subjects may require students to bring their laptop for use in every lessons, whilst for others it may be less frequent, or used mainly for self-study and to access revision resources. Your teacher will outline their expectations in September.

**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 laptop is most suitable for the task complexity and duration that students will encounter in Key Stage 5. With proper care, a good device should last for several years, allowing your son or daughter to use this throughout their time at Verulam.

*

**Security & Safety**

* 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.
* Students will be responsible for ensuring their device is with them, or stored securely at break and lunch so that no accidental damage occurs.

**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 Mr Emsley, Assistant Headteacher, using the email address below.

BYOD@verulam.herts.sch.uk

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.

**Blended Learning**

* Combines the use of technology 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 10 inch screen and keyboard
* At least 6 hour battery life or external battery packs
* Wireless networking capability

Almost any reasonably modern laptop will suffice, particularly from the main brands of Acer, Asus, Toshiba, Lenovo, HP, Dell etc. Chromebooks from various vendors are also completely suitable.

**Insurance & Protection**