



BIRKENHEAD SCHOOL

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy

Birkenhead School aims to provide students with anywhere, anytime and anyhow access to its information resources for learning. We aim to ensure every student can connect to resources throughout the school day and beyond.

ICT skills are increasingly important and the school expects students to have a portable laptop or tablet with them in all lessons. As resources such as notes and past paper questions are increasingly “online” students without access to a device are likely to be disadvantaged. The school’s adoption of the Firefly portal from September 2018 will add to this momentum.

We recognise that students have different needs and prefer different formats and makes of devices therefore do not dictate any particular model or manufacturer. Similarly, there is no expectation to purchase a new or separate device where an existing one may suffice even if it doesn’t quite meet the specification below. A mobile phone is not a suitable device.

For new purchases we advise:

- Screen size should be no bigger than 15”x11” (16” diagonal)
- Screen size should be no smaller than 9”x7.5”
- Wireless capability.
- Battery life of 6 hours or more
- Weight less than 3.2Kg
- Storage to hold basic “apps” such as Office 365 and Google apps: 32GB
- If used for additional out of school activities the device might need to be 64GB or more.
- Any Web browser.
- A keyboard – one which doubles up as part of protective case is a very useful addition.

Additional Considerations

It is worth considering an extended, perhaps 3-year warranty and/or accidental damage protection. Some form of case or cover would be very sensible. Household insurance may provide some protection, but please check your policy. School insurance does not cover students’ personal belongings - laptops and tablets are often considered to be “disposable” and are increasingly difficult to repair from an economic and practical perspective.

Windows devices come with free antivirus software which is usually adequate. Office 365 is supplied by the school and can be installed by the student when they use their school email address and password.

While a tablet is fine for use in school, access to a PC, laptop or portable device with keyboard capability at home is advised.

These are some ideas of the range of devices and their costs:

Entry Level

LINX 12X64

4GB RAM, 64GB SSD Atom CPU.

Windows 10.

Guide price: £196



Samsung Galaxy Tab

Guide price: £193

Mid Range

HP 250 G6 i5 Laptop 2SY46ES

i5 CPU, with 8GB RAM

256GB HD.

Guide price: £449



Apple iPad 9.7" 2017 32GB

Guide price: £284

Top Specification

Apple Mac Book Pro or Microsoft Surface Pro. Various “gaming” laptops. Ipad pro.

Apple Macbook AIR
MQD32

Intel 1800 MHz

128 GB 8GB

Guide price: £821



Microsoft Surface Pro 12.3-Inch PixelSense

Guide price: £750