

King Edward VI Aston School Frederick Road Birmingham B6 6DJ

School Tel: 0121 327 1130 KESSP – Trinity Road Tel: 0121 5546638

enquiry@keaston.bham.sch.uk www.keaston.bham.sch.uk Twitter: @KEVIASTON



Educational excellence for our City

10th February, 2023

Sixth Form Devices Scheme

Dear parents,

Accelerated by the pandemic, the potential for technology to support student organisation is becoming ever more prominent. Stylus-enabled devices allow users to continue with the skills of handwritten work while also benefitting from the abilities of the technology to support with organisation and integration of their work.

As such we successfully introduced **bring your own device (BYOD) scheme** for our Year 12 cohort from September 2022, and following its success we have decided to continue with this scheme for all of our Sixth Form students. Therefore, we expect all our Sixth Form students to bring a stylus enabled device to use in all lessons from September 2023. The introduction of the BYOD scheme is about the learning of our pupils and their achievement. We believe strongly that devices will enhance the excellent teaching and learning that is already happening in our classrooms, rather than replace it. It is not our intention to move away from the more 'traditional' methods of learning, but to provide access to the most appropriate method for each learning activity – using technology alongside class discussion, written and practical work.

The BYOD scheme was launched on a compulsory basis to ensure that no student is left behind and enables teachers to teach to the technological needs of the group (for example sharing learning resources electronically as opposed to a paper format). Having a requirement of a stylus enabled device ensures that basic handwriting skills are not lost.

Based on the technology used in/outside classroom at King Edward VI Aston, we recommend our students to either get an iPad (with an Apple pencil) or Windows Laptop (touch screen with pen). Please see our school <u>website</u> for further details of minimum requirements. Students will be able to choose the device that suits their needs the best. An iPad is suitable for all students apart from those who are studying A Level Computer Science, A Level Music or Cambridge Technical Award level 3.

Please do take the time to explore further details on our website and on the attached FAQs and support documents. Should you have any specific questions about the requirements, please email <u>k.lally@keaston.bham.sch.uk</u>. The following form will help us with our planning for September and there is also an opportunity to ask any questions <u>Click here to access the form</u>

We look forward to welcoming your child to our Sixth Form in September (assuming entrance criteria is met).

Yours faithfully,

M.Brady Headteacher

Headteacher Mr M.D.Brady BA (Hons) MA Ed

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