



Dear Parents and Carers,

## Re: 1:1 technology

I do hope you are all well and enjoying the good weather.

I am writing to you regarding the development of our 1:1 device strategy.

During the last academic year, we put plans together to trial the use of 1:1 devices in class for a whole year group. Our strategy included giving parents the opportunity to purchase a device for their child to use for school work, or to borrow a school owned device. Our trial began with Year 8 and we had plans to roll this out to other year groups in due course.

However, since beginning the trial, we have experienced unexpected reliability issues with some of the devices and have decided that now is the right time to review our plans. In order to support our families and try to ensure that our trial year group (current year 8) can continue with the trial, we would like to buy back the devices from those families that have bought them. This would allow us to swap out devices that had reliability issues without impacting on students own property. It would also enable us to ensure that all devices benefit from all future software upgrades, including safe internet searching. The buy back would be at the price parents paid for the device.

At this time, the intention is that year 8 would keep their devices so that our trial can continue, allowing teachers and students to experiment with how to get the most out of 1:1 devices in class and for homework.

Devices were purchased by some families from other year groups, it is important to stress that the **buyback offer stands for all 1:1 devices purchased from school**. The devices that we buy back from students outside of the trial year group (year 8) would need to be returned to school with the charger.

**We will write to all year 8 parents (and the parents who have purchased a device) in the very near future to further explain the process. I would be grateful if you didn't contact your Head of Year about this issue, since they will not be managing the buyback offer. There will be a point of contact for you in the forthcoming communication.**

We are still interested in pursuing 1:1 learning in the classroom and at home and are currently in dialogue with our Trust colleagues to investigate a more sustainable approach with higher quality devices. Indeed, you might be interested to see how one of our Trust schools, Portsmouth Academy, has introduced 1:1 technology. Please see [here](#) for further details. Providing we can resolve the reliability issues with the devices, our trial with current year 8 will continue for the next academic year to give us the chance to experiment with different learning opportunities in class and at home.

Very best wishes,



**Simon Underdown.**  
**Headteacher.**