Device For Learning Policy
For 3rd and 4th Form New Entrants 2021

What is our digital Learning philosophy?

At Shrewsbury we want to make sure that our pupils have the digital skills required to thrive here at school and thereafter in higher education and the world of work, just in the same way as we would want to prepare them academically, physically and emotionally. The use of technology is now deeply integrated into education and having the right device is crucial for Shrewsbury School pupils to access the curriculum.

What device do pupils need?

Pupils at Shrewsbury will need to have either of the two types of Microsoft Surface listed here:

	Microsoft Surface Pro 7	Microsoft Surface Go 2
Screen size	12.3 inch (Quad HD 2736 x 1824)	10.5 inch (Full HD 1920 x 1280p)
Minimum Processor	Intel® Core™ i5 Processor	Intel® Pentium® Gold 4425Y 1.7GHz
Minimum advised specification	8GB RAM 128GB SSD	8GB RAM 128GB
Battery Life	Up to 10.5 Hours	Up to 10 Hours
Pros and cons comparison	• Very high resolution and practical size screen. • Full size keyboard • Powerful processor and graphics • Longer life expectancy • Higher purchase price than Go	• Small lightweight design • Same core functionality as Pro • Not as powerful processor or graphics • Smaller screen size and keyboard for working

How should I purchase the device?

The Shrewsbury School Device Purchasing Portal will go live in the summer when you will be sent the link and further details. This portal allows you a simple way to purchase the complete education bundles (device/stylus/keyboard/rugged UAG cover) for our learning devices at a competitive price from our official Microsoft partners.

You will be able to choose how you want to pay (upfront/monthly), and be able to add extended warranty and insurance as you wish. All financial transactions are with the partner directly and not with the school.

The devices will then arrive at school and be added to our management software to be pre-configured for our systems here. They will have all the necessary software installed including the full Office 365 package, they will run Windows Pro and have enhanced protection compared to a retail version of the device. The student will have full administrator access to the device to customise it as they wish and so it will be very much their device, but will allow the school to push updates out as needed and keep the device secure on our network.

The pupils will receive their device on their first day from their Housemaster/Housemistress as part of their initial induction, they will log in with their school details and be all set up ready to start school!

Alternatively, you can choose to purchase the Surface device from a shop or online retailer of your own choice. These devices cannot be set up on our management software in the same way, they will not run windows Pro edition, but students will be able to download Microsoft office for free when they get their school login. If you purchase the Surface this way, please make sure you buy the type cover, stylus and add a suitable hard case such as the UAG model.

Why Microsoft Surface?

🖥️	2 in 1 hybrid (tablet and laptop)
⭐	Windows 10
✏️	Stylus
👍	Good size screen
📱	Light weight
🔋	Good battery life
🏅	Solid build quality

We have been using Surfaces at Shrewsbury for a number of years now. With their 2 in 1 form factor these devices offer the best compromise between a full laptop experience and the flexibility of a tablet.

We use Office 365 software at Shrewsbury and pupils will access Microsoft Teams and OneNote every day both in lessons and for Top Schools. Increasingly the ability to effectively combine hand-written notes, diagrams and mathematical notation with typed text is particularly advantageous for pupils' learning. A device that can blend written and typed information opens the way for a multitude of applications in the classroom. Therefore, the Surface stylus pen becomes of huge benefit to learning, especially in subjects such as maths, art, chemistry, physics and DT where a standard keyboard simply isn't an appropriate or natural way to interact with your work.

Teachers are provided with a Surface allowing them to master their own devices, devise tasks and lesson activities with confidence knowing that it will work on all pupil devices and they will be able to help them if they have any issues.

What will pupils be using their device for?

Every pupil will use Microsoft Teams for digital access to their classes and other groups they are associated with in the school. All Top Schools (homework) are set on Microsoft Teams as assignments. Pupils will take their devices with them in their school bag every day so that they have them available for when the teachers choose to use them in lessons.
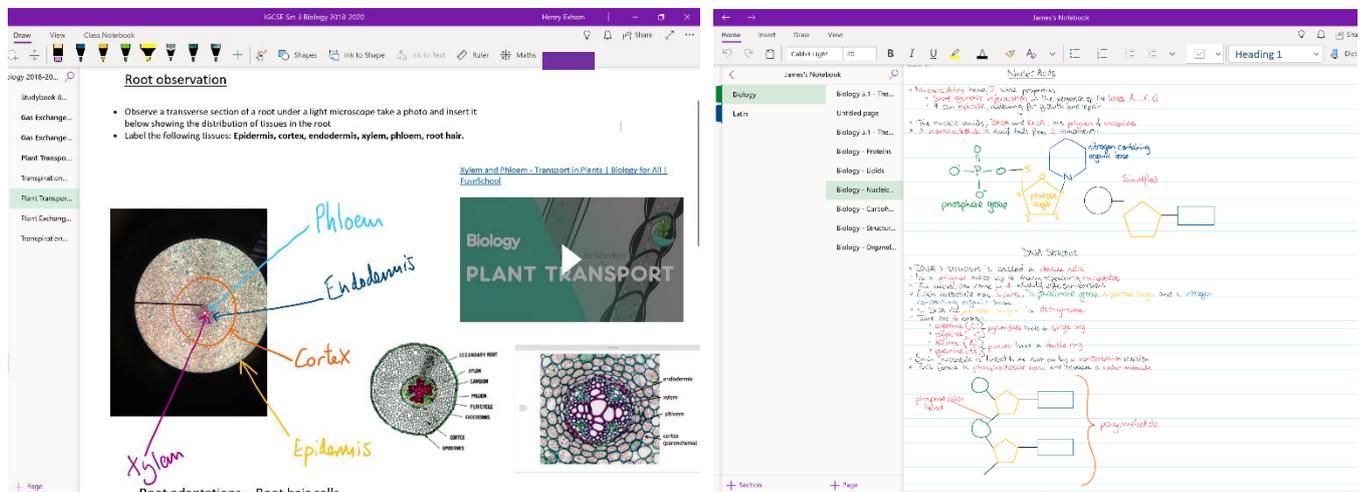
All 3rd Form pupils will undertake our Digital Curriculum called EQUIP that is deeply integrated into our Origins 3rd Form Curriculum. Pupils will be exposed to and taught a range of IT skills in all their subjects throughout the year. This means that the skills are being learned and developed with genuine context rather than in a separate IT lesson. These essential skills will cover the main Office 365 tools (Teams, Word, PowerPoint, Excel, OneNote and OneDrive) along with some digital citizenship, research skills and some media skills.

Pupils will use our virtual learning environment to access all their daily information and they will also have access to a vast range of resources on this system uploaded by their teachers to help support their independent learning. In addition to this, they will have a personal Shrewsbury School Blog called SHREWD which is added to during weekly tutorials to reflect on various aspects of school life such as ; character, achievements, progress and soft skills.

There is no doubt that during the recent periods of school closure the teachers have developed innovative and effective ways of using technology to further learning. Many of these will be integrated into their normal ways of teaching from now on. One example of this is the widespread use of OneNote. This is a complete

system for note taking, distributing work, completing work, filing and feedback. This is one specific area where the use of a stylus on a digital device is invaluable as it allows pupils to draw, sketch, annotate as well as type. Pupils quickly see the benefits of being able to store hand-written and typed work in one place. The teacher is able to mark the Top Schools in the notebook with their device and leave feedback in situ.

Some examples of work completed by Shrewsbury School students on OneNote

What about device security?

- All devices and styluses will be labelled securely shortly after arriving at school.
- If they are on our management system, we can securely wipe them and recover them if needed.
- If you purchase your device through the portal you will have the choice to add insurance and/or extended warranty to your device. Household insurance may provide some protection but please check your policy. While the main school insurance does not cover pupils' personal belongings, parents can elect to purchase Marsh's pupils' personal effects insurance via the school, or alternatively other insurances are available if you purchase independently.
- We have an excellent IT support team who are willing to help pupils who are having issues with their device. However, they cannot carry out hardware repairs. This would need to be organised via your own means or through your insurance. If you purchased through the portal warranty or insurance claims can be arranged with the portal providers directly.
- We do have a small supply of spare Microsoft Surface devices and styluses in the IT Support Office that can be loaned to pupils if they are waiting for their own device to be repaired.

The Acceptable Usage Policy

The School takes cyber safety seriously. All pupils sign our ICT Acceptable Use Policy annually and receive regular reminders of IT responsibilities, ethics and digital citizenship. We run enterprise-grade internet filtering to minimise inappropriate use and protect the school network. Pupils are therefore monitored when they connect to our wireless network.

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February 2021