

28 September 2020

Dear Parent

### Year 7 iPad Scheme Launch

I hope that your son has enjoyed his first few days at the RGS; we have certainly enjoyed meeting the boys, they are truly delightful.

I wrote to you in July to let you know that we are bringing forward our Year 7 iPad launch. This is because we cannot, with certainty, predict what the coming months will bring in relation to Covid. It is particularly difficult to do so as accessing the national Covid testing system is proving challenging for us all. We hope this will be soon rectified by the Government, but nonetheless we would like to be prepared.

As part of both our Covid and long-term Digital Strategies, we are asking all teachers to teach and set homework using Office 365 Teams and it is important for students to have a device which will enable them to access the platform. Whilst teachers are not allowed to move around classrooms, it also makes the sharing of work possible during and after the lessons.

Thus, having a 1-2-1 approach supports the School's Digital Strategy, allowing us to support and enhance the students' learning and work. We will also focus on developing the key digital skills they will need in the wider world and, in particular, on the Office 365 suite of applications.

As stated in the July letter, in 2019 we reviewed the device we offer to our students and are confident that the iPad, with keyboard, is the best product at this time. It is the perfect tool to access cloudbased products, it has well regarded Apps which we use for teaching, and it is a robust, trackable device.

It is perfectly acceptable for you to provide your son with an iPad and keyboard independently of the School's scheme. It must have at least 32GB of storage, is Wi-Fi compatible and, as well as having a keyboard, it must have a robust case. If this is the option you choose, please complete the form available by clicking on this link - [Form](#).

If you decide to join the School's Scheme, we will provide an iPad with keyboard, 32GB of storage, Wi-Fi and a Zag Rugged Messenger case. We also provide Accidental Theft and Damage Insurance for two years plus a two-year Warranty for the device.

Please note, all devices must be restricted whilst on site so that social media websites, for example, cannot be accessed. **Devices purchased through the School scheme are also restricted at home, so that they are only a work tool and cannot be used for gaming;** this change was implemented two years ago in response to parental requests.

## Obtaining an iPad and keypad through the RGSHW/Jigsaw24 Scheme

The School Scheme works as follows:

- We ask parents to donate either a one-off amount or a monthly sum via The Learning Foundation, in return for which your son will have the use of an iPad at School and home. At the end of the two-year period the iPad will belong to you if you make a final market value payment (estimated at £60.12 for the iPad 32GB). **The iPad remains the property of the School until the option to buy is taken up.**

### **Projected Cost if purchasing by monthly payments of £15.50 per month:**

Total Paid over 24 months	(£15.50 x 24)	£372.00
Cost to purchase the iPad at the end of 2 years:		£60.12 (*may vary)
Total Cost:		<b>£432.12</b> (dependent on the above)

### **Projected Cost if purchasing by an initial one-off payment:**

Upfront payment:		£310.00
Cost to purchase the iPad at the end of 2 years:		£60.12 (*may vary)
Total Cost:		<b>£370.12</b> (dependent on the above)

- The Learning Foundation is a registered education charity. It collects your donations on our behalf to save us administration costs. They apply for Gift Aid on your donations, where applicable, and then grant the money back to the School to pay the programme expenses. **It is vital that you “tick the Gift Aid box” if you are a UK taxpayer;** otherwise the cost of administering the collection of monthly donations must come out of your donation.

As stated above, this iPad will come with a warranty and insurance scheme (covering theft and accidental damage with no excess for the first two years). If you take ownership at the end of the 2-year period the warranty will lapse and insurance will be your responsibility.

If you wish to order an iPad via the School scheme you will need to access our dedicated portal at <https://secure.edirectdebit.com/E-learning-foundation/TheRoyalGrammarSchoolHighWycombe-Programme2019/Desktop-Form-Page/>. To log into the portal please enter the parent email address we use to send out school communications. If you use two parental email addresses either of them can be used. If you experience any difficulties with logging into the portal, please contact us at [ithelp@rgshw.com](mailto:ithelp@rgshw.com). I would also wish to remind you that you are only able to order one iPad via this scheme unless, of course, you have twins or triplets.

The School scheme is underpinned by the principle of equality of access. If you cannot afford to participate, please write to me ([hmf@rgshw.com](mailto:hmf@rgshw.com)). If you have already written to me, I will be in touch with you individually.

We thank you, once again, for your support.

Yours sincerely

**Marieke Forster**  
**Assistant Head**

## FAQs – if you join the RGS iPad Scheme

- **Who owns the iPads?**

The iPads are the property of the School and are provided to students at the discretion of the School. Your contribution is a charitable donation towards the programme, not a payment towards the iPad.

- **What happens at the end of two years?**

The School has no plans to retain the devices after the end of the scheme. They will be offered to parents for a small fee linked to the market value at that time in line with Gift Aid rules.

- **What happens if the iPad gets damaged or lost?**

The iPad will be insured for accidental damage (provided it is in the recommended case) and theft. However, if your son is careless or damages the iPad deliberately you will be asked to cover the cost of repair.

- **What happens if I can't make the regular donations?**

No boy will be excluded from the programme because of their financial circumstances so please come and talk to us to ensure your son is included. If your son is eligible for Pupil Premium funding, we will not ask you for a donation.

- **Can I pay by cash or cheque?**

Collecting cash involves a lot more work and administration costs for the School so our overwhelming preference is for you to sign a Direct Debit

- **What happens if I change my mind in a few months' time?**

Changing your mind halfway through the programme would compromise the School's finances as we will already have purchased the iPad. This is a commitment that needs to be seen through.

### Key dates:

Date	Event
Mon 5 October 2020	Portal goes live at 9:00am for parents to order an iPad
Mon 19 October 2020	Portal closes at midnight for ordering an iPad
Mon 2 November 2020	We hope iPads will be available for collection - we will write with detail of the collection process closer to the time
Tues 3 November 2020	Students with their own devices are asked to take them to the Library at 0840 so that Meraki can be installed
Weds 4 November 2020	All students should bring their iPads to school for training, iPads will be used in lessons from this date onwards