

9 July 2020

Dear Parent

iPad Scheme Launch

It is School Policy that all students in Years 8, 9 and 10 will use iPads in Lessons and when completing homework. This letter is only intended for those parents whose son does not have an iPad and who would like to purchase one through the School scheme.

As part of the RGS Digital Strategy, we believe our students must have the ability to use digital technology to support and enhance their learning / work. We focus on developing the key skills they will need in the wider world and, in particular, on the Office 365 suite of applications. 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 independently of the School's Scheme. Should you choose to do so, please ensure it has at least 32GB of storage, it is Wi-Fi compatible and, as well as having a keyboard, it has a robust case. 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.

All iPads must have full restrictions to ensure social media websites, for example, cannot be accessed.

The School Scheme works as follows:

- You make a monthly or upfront donation to the School via [The Learning Foundation](#).
- Your son gets use of an iPad, at home and at School, for two years.
- ***After two years you will get the option to buy the iPad at the market value at that time. The current estimate is £60.12 including VAT. The iPad remains the property of the School until the option to buy is taken up.**
- The Learning Foundation is a registered education charity. It collects your donations on our behalf to save us administration costs. You can choose to either make one, upfront payment or a monthly donation. They apply for Gift Aid on your donations, where applicable, and then grant the money back to the School to pay the programme expenses.
- **Gift Aid: 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.

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

Total Paid over 24 moths (£15.50 x 24)	£372.00
Cost to purchase the iPad at the end of 2 years:	£60.12 (*may vary)
Total Cost:	£432.12 (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: £370.12 (dependent on the above)

The School scheme is underpinned by the principle of equality of access. If you cannot afford to participate, please write to me (hmf@rghsw.com).

Finally, to ensure your son's iPad is kept secure during Games, PE, break and lunch time we ask you to reserve a locker for him.

I will be writing to you again in September with details about how to apply for a School iPad which will be delivered in October 2020.

We thank you, in advance, 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.