



Wycombe Abbey Digital Devices

September 2021 and September 2022

Vision and Strategy

“Our strategic direction outlines our determination to offer a future-focused curriculum, where we prepare girls for life beyond School.

Our move to Wycombe Abbey Digital Devices will ensure that all of our pupils develop the skills to succeed in their education and excel in a world increasingly driven by technology.”

Jo Duncan, Headmistress

This year has seen a dramatic shift in the use of digital devices at Wycombe Abbey. Pupils have developed greater digital fluency, and teachers continue to incorporate appropriate technology into pupils' learning. We have continued to help pupils prepare for the challenges of the 21st century and their use of Teams and OneNote has encouraged increasingly independent and collaborative learning.

We have thought carefully about developing an environment where technology best supports learning and also equips girls with the skills they need for the future. Schools that succeed in delivering a forward-looking curriculum, where the use of technology is embedded and seamless, have chosen an approach where every pupil and teacher is operating on uniform hardware and software. This approach is often called '1:1' and can remove many of the obstacles faced by teachers and pupils in using technology effectively. It allows for flexible teaching, where the digital devices used genuinely enhance lessons.

Wycombe Abbey Digital Devices, our 1:1 scheme, launches in September 2021 with new pupils choosing from a range of School-managed Microsoft Surface devices. By September 2022, every pupil is expected to join the scheme. We strongly encourage current pupils to opt-in early if they do not have a pen-enabled device.

We believe that education should not simply be about delivering a curriculum and examination syllabus; that real learning stems from stimulating intellectual curiosity and nurturing a love for the subjects being taught, which will stay with our girls throughout their lives. Wycombe Abbey Digital Devices will provide us with the toolset to achieve this in a 21st century way.

[Device Choice Form \(for September 2021\)](#)

We advise you complete this as soon as possible and our deadline for submitting this form is 28 May 2021.

If you have more than one daughter joining the scheme this year, please fill in a form separately for each device to be purchased. More detailed information about the scheme is presented in the following pages of this booklet.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with us via email (digital@wycombeabbey.com).

Binit Shah

Director of Digital Learning

Microsoft Surfaces

Microsoft 365

Microsoft Teams and OneNote, two of our core teaching tools, have been used on a myriad of devices this year, generally to excellent effect. However, there are idiosyncrasies in the way the software works on different operating systems and this has occasionally led to less-than-ideal learning experiences. In some classes, it has been clear that pupils with certain devices are unable to access key features of the software and this means it has been more challenging to develop lessons that harness the power of the technology. We have also seen first-hand the benefits of pupils having pen-enabled devices, especially with the use of OneNote to store all forms of work in a single electronic notebook.

Surface Devices and Prices

We have conducted extensive research into the best devices for learning in the classroom and have chosen versatile Microsoft Surface devices; this is in keeping with other leading schools. Pupils can choose from a range of Surface Pro 7, 7+ and the Surface Book 3 devices:



Surface Pro 7 i5 8GB 256GB, Type Cover and Pen	£1158.11
Surface Pro 7 i7 16GB 256GB, Type Cover and Pen	£1327.34
Surface Pro 7+ i5 8GB 256GB, Type Cover and Pen	£1303.82 (highly recommended)
Surface Pro 7+ i7 16GB 256GB, Type Cover and Pen	£1507.52
Surface Book 3 i5 (13.5") 8GB 256GB and Pen	£1626.61
Surface Book 3 i7 (13.5") 16GB 256GB and Pen	£1936.72

All devices purchased through the School will be covered by a three-year warranty managed on your behalf by the School, included in the price above. The Surface Pro 7 is being offered at a discount by our vendors and is in limited stock. In the case of stock unavailability, your order will be changed to the equivalent Surface Pro 7+.

Payment Options

The device can be paid for via a lump sum added to the Autumn 2021 School Fees or in six equal termly instalments.

Bursary recipients will have their devices subsidised and we will be providing more details of this directly to the relevant parents in a separate letter.

Insurance

With the introduction of the 1:1 device scheme, the School will also be providing its Pupils' Personal Effects cover to all pupils free of charge from 1 September 2021. This provides cover against loss, theft, and damage of a pupil's possessions during term time at the School, whilst travelling on a direct journey to or from the School (including to and from abroad) and on School trips. More details on this scheme will be provided by the Bursar in due course. Please note that the School's scheme does not provide cover at home, during the holidays or on other non-School trips, and parents are recommended to ensure that they have appropriate cover in place through other policies.

Cases

All devices should be kept in a protective sleeve case when not in use. This can be in any colour or style of your choice. We recommend the following brands: Belkin, tomtoc 360, MoKo and Inateck, all available online for around £20, but any other protective sleeve can be used. The School can provide one or you can choose one independently; please indicate your choice in in the form.

Safeguarding

Girls' use of School devices on our network will be monitored carefully. We will partner with eSafe, a world-class safeguarding software provider, who will alert our Designated Safeguarding Lead if inappropriate content is accessed or if pupils use their devices for communications that suggest a concern.

Classroom Software (U111 only)

Senso.cloud classroom management will be installed on U111 devices and can be used at the teachers' discretion during School hours (08:20-17:15) when the pupils are connected to the School network and in classes. This will allow teachers to facilitate and support learning in the classroom effectively. This software may be rolled out to other year groups in due course.



Other Software

The device will be preinstalled with Office 365 and software to protect the device. Other teaching and learning software can be installed remotely as required by the School. Your daughter will also be able to install software onto the machine and use the device freely outside of school hours.

More information about devices

We highly recommend the Surface Pro 7+



These powerful devices are capable for schoolwork and the form factor of the Surface Pro is more suitable for younger pupils; it only weighs 1.1kg, including the Type cover keyboard.

The Surface Pro 7 and Surface Pro 7+ are similar devices, with the 7+ offering a significantly improved battery life and a newer processor.

We have offered both i5 and i7 processors in each range; the i5 with 8GB RAM will provide more than enough power for pupils' needs but the option of the i7 and 16GB RAM is available for those that wish to have the fastest option.

All the devices are excellent for inking and come with a Surface Pen. They all have two cameras, one on the front and one on the back.

Some pupils may also prefer the larger screen of the Surface Book 3; this offers a more robust keyboard and is also usable in tablet mode when detached from the base. It is more like a traditional laptop for typing and is slightly heavier at 1.5kg.

Further information and device specifications are available here:

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/surface/business/>



FAQs

When should we purchase a School Surface?

If your daughter is joining the School in September 2021, she will be required to join the scheme.

If your daughter is a current pupil and has an ink-enabled device, she can choose to join the scheme in September 2021 or September 2022.

Can my daughter use the device she already has?

If your daughter is a current pupil and her device is not ink-enabled, then it is strongly recommended she joins the scheme in September 2021.

Current pupils can continue to use their device in classrooms until September 2022.

If you are thinking of buying a new device, you can sign up for WDD for September 2021. From September 2022, all pupils must use a School-managed device in the classroom.

Will my daughter need a separate personal laptop or device?

No. The School issued device can be used for personal use, within the guidelines of the School's Online Safety.

How long will a Surface Pro or Book be expected to last?

Three to five years. There is a three-year warranty included in the price.

What happens if my daughter's device suffers accidental damage, is lost or stolen?

The device will be covered by the School personal possessions policy during term-time. If a device breaks in the holidays, it will not be covered by the policy. A short-term replacement device will be made available to pupils to ensure continuity of learning.

What happens to the data on the device if the device fails?

By default, all files are stored in OneDrive in the cloud. When a new or replacement device is issued, it will connect automatically to their account and the files will be available. All files stored in OneDrive are accessible from any device.

My daughter is in LVI now and will be in UVI in September 2021. Will she need a Surface?

Pupils in UVI only have one year remaining at the School so they are not required to join the scheme.

My daughter is currently in UV. Will she need a School Surface in 2022-2023?

Maybe. We advise all current UV pupils to join early and purchase a device in September 2021 to get maximum benefit for their Sixth Form studies, but if your daughter already has an inkable device, she can continue to use it in LVI and UVI.

What happens when my daughter leaves the School?

All School-specific software will be uninstalled from the device and it then it can then be used as a personal device.

Why Windows?

Windows is the dominant operating system in businesses around the world and used by 90% of universities. We believe it is important that girls know how to use Windows well. The School is an Office 365 School, and by using Windows 10, pupils have access to the best version of Office 365. Our teachers and IT department are very familiar with this operating system and we will be able to support these devices effectively.

The Surface Pro and Book offer pupils a full Windows experience but also the ability to work in tablet mode. Microsoft has optimised the Surface range for inking, allowing pupils to write directly on their device with a Surface Pen. The Surface Pro and Book have superb battery lives and excellent build quality.

Can the device be used for personal use during the holiday?

Yes. The device may still be monitored by our safeguarding software, eSafe.

Why is Wycombe Abbey using School-managed devices?

There are significant drawbacks when pupils use their non-managed devices in the classroom. Pupils currently bring a wide variety of devices, leading to incompatibilities with School systems. It also ensures your daughter will have continuity of education by being able to swap out a broken device for a spare device in School. Pupils use of technology will be much more effectively supported by teachers.

A School Surface Pro or Book will be pre-installed with all the required applications and updates required for a pupil's learning. It will be continually updated. The Surface will also have software installed to allow them to be used productively in the classroom. When all pupils have the same device, the learning experience will be significantly improved. The School-issued Surface will also be securely firewalled and allow us to make use of software to improve safeguarding.

If you have further questions, please email: digital@wycombeabbey.com.



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