

Digital Strategy June 2019 Frequently Asked Questions

This FAQ is designed to complement the presentation that was given to parents on 19th June 2019. A team of Digital Champions developed the strategy over the last 18 months. Amongst other things we visited Educational Conferences, visited and skyped other schools, consulted with experts and providers including educational, management and security and have taken feedback from stakeholders at our school and other schools.

When is this BYOD requirement changing?

From September 2019, all new Remove (Year 7) students will be required to have a managed device of either a Microsoft Go (recommended) or Microsoft Pro Surface device.

From September 2021 all students will be required to have a Microsoft Go or Pro that is managed on the College network.

Our recommended device has not changed over the last year and since Christmas we have advised parents to hold off buying a new device until our guidance has been made available, effectively giving a transition period of two and a half years.

My daughter will be in Lower Four or above in September 2019 and is currently using a device – do I need buy another now?

No, until September 2021 students can use their current devices. When you are looking at upgrading/updating prior to this you can then purchase the Microsoft Go or Pro.

I bought a Microsoft Go or Pro in the last academic year, can this be changed to a managed device?

Yes, over this transition period we will look to do this however we will need to rebuild the machine and you will need to remove all local files you wish to keep. Because of the number of changes we are currently making, please wait until after the first two weeks of term before requesting this. Please contact hfears@ladiescollege.ac.gg (Mr Henry Fears, IT Technician)

How do I order the one of the devices?

Use the tile present on the RM Unify Launchpad when you log in to your Parent Portal account. You will be asked for your contact details then taken through the options and prices. No order is placed until you submit the Form at the end. CCS media will then contact you, using the contact details provided, to arrange payment. The parent's presentation introduced these devices. The devices will be registered in the name of the contact person unless otherwise requested.

Parents of Remove students joining the College in September 2019 and parents of students wanting to have one of the devices at the start of the Michaelmas 2019 term should place the order before July 16th. This is to enable the devices to be delivered in one batch. There will be regular windows for ordering devices including prior to Christmas for Santa deliveries!

Can I have a quick summary of the options?

Microsoft Go (including Keyboard) £475 - Recommended for Remove, Lower 4 students and other years that are happy with a smaller screen and that are not likely to be doing large amounts of media editing.

Microsoft Pro 6 (including Keyboard) £805 – Recommended for Sixth Form students and those that prefer the larger screen and/or are likely to have higher processing demands e.g. Music, Art and Drama GCSE students.

Higher spec machines are available using the options on the Form.

Case (military spec) £45 - Recommended

2 year extended warranty and accidental damage £80 (Go) or £100 (Pro) – Recommended unless covered on household insurance.

Microsoft Pen £80 - Not recommended (if you decide to purchase, please keep at home)

Microsoft mouse £25 - Not recommended (if you decide to purchase, please keep at home)

Is there a staggered payments plan?

We spent considerable time trying to find a provider who could deliver a staggered payment option and obtained quotes from a number of these. Our conclusion was that purchasing the devices in a one-off payment represented the best value for money for parents in that they could borrow from a bank at a better rate than we were quoted. There was often also a requirement that we had to have a minimum number of parents willing to take up this option/all parents had to do so to make it viable for the company so those parents wanting to make a single payment were being penalised. Our provider is competitive against both local and off-island suppliers. Should providing a device your daughter prove a challenge, please contact the Principal principal@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Why are we moving towards these specific devices?

We want the teachers and students to be able to concentrate on the learning in the classroom and to be able to use the apps that promote this. Our previous strategy was successful in starting this process however teachers are limited in what they can do because not all students arrive to lessons with the same apps that work in the same way. Many internet/cloud based apps are being used, such as Office365, Kahoot and Quizlet. However, to move forward teachers need to be confident that all students do have the same app and that it works in the same way. This is particularly true of subject specific apps e.g. for datalogging, languages, mathematics, music where the same apps are currently not available or function in different ways depending on whether you are on Apple, Android or Windows based systems. With a standardised specification and by pushing out the required apps to all devices, teachers know that students will be able to follow a set of instructions and effective use can be made of the apps.

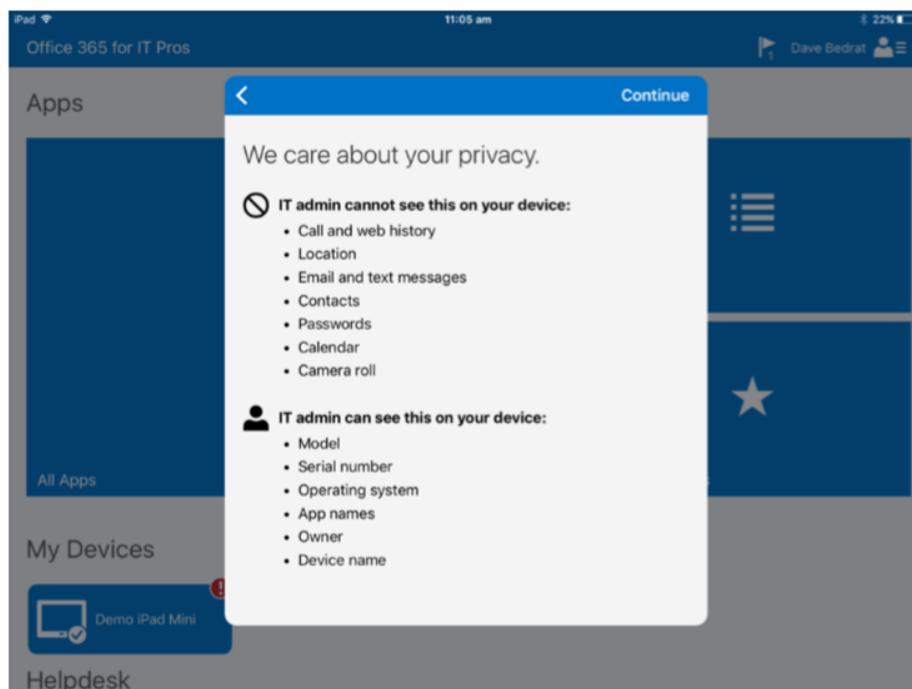
These devices also have sufficient screen size and a detachable keyboard that enables students to be able to work on documents either individually or collaboratively or to detach the keyboard and use for videoing/photographing work or as a reading device. We believe these devices are the most suitable devices for our students to have to achieve our objectives, represent good value for money and are being used in a number of other schools with success.

What is meant by a managed device?

We enroll student and staff devices onto Intune, a mobile device management system. This enables us to ensure that all devices are able to access our network, we control who does access our network, we can push applications and updates out to devices so that students have the correct app for the lesson and ensure that data is protected e.g. antivirus and security certificates are up to date, screen locks in place, data can be wiped remotely should a device be lost or stolen and documents are tagged to maintain data protection of College documents and preventing them being distributed outside of a secure environment. The link below provides more detailed information;

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-GB/education/intune/default.aspx>

What information can be seen by those managing the device?



Can I install other software to the device?

The device is intended to be the students learning device. Intune, the device management software does have a number of options for different settings we are currently exploring and, as we roll out the program, we will carry out further consultations to provide the optimum settings for students to be able to use their devices appropriately.

How does this work for Sixth Form?

The devices Sixth Form students currently have will be supported until September 2021. We will be reviewing this with Elizabeth College over the next year however these devices do meet our existing requirements and parents purchasing one of these devices will be able to continue to use it through to the Sixth Form. Boys will still be able to access our network using Guest access.

Do I need to purchase Microsoft Office 365?

No, this is provided to all students at The Ladies' College. They may download and use the apps on up to 5 machines as part of their account in addition to working in the cloud.

Do I need to have any back up software?

No, students are encouraged to store their data in their OneDrive.

Do I need to buy anti-virus software?

No, this will be installed as part of the management of the device.

Are we banning phones?

No. With these devices and our other changes students should not need to have their phones in lessons. We already have a policy that enforces when and where phones can be used. If you choose to give your daughter a phone with 4G you should be aware that we cannot filter what she accesses while on 4G. We are upgrading our Wi-Fi network over the summer and no student should need to have access to 4G within College. We would ask parents to be aware of the advice on the BYOD page regarding age specific apps and suggest that they enable appropriate safeguards from their provider e.g. requiring parental approval before installing apps. Part of our Digital Strategy includes advising students, teachers and parents on security, safety and well-being both inside college and outside.

What Apps should parents have?

We will be using three main apps for communication:

- ParentPortal – for seeing the information we hold on your daughter, downloading reports, viewing attendance data and her timetable. We do not currently use the behaviour module.
- ParentHub – for sending information such as letters and other documents.
- CareMonkey – this will be rolled out from September 2019 to enable the completion of electronic forms.

I have questions that are not answered here!

Please check the information on the website first, especially the presentation to parents.

For questions on accessing the network or device ordering, please contact: Mrs J Le Cras jlecras@ladiescollege.ac.gg

For e-safety questions, please contact: Mr Paul Beasley pbeasley@ladiescollege.ac.gg

For questions relating to our Digital Strategy, please contact: Mr H Barnes hbarnes@ladiescollege.ac.gg