EXCELLENCE   **INSPIRATION**   **RESILIENCE**   **RESPECT**

FRONTIERS
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & CARERS

What is FRONTIERS?

OAK's Project Frontiers is first and foremost a teaching and learning project. It is intended to give our teachers and students the very best digital tools available to support how and what is learnt.

Staff and students at Manor High School will benefit from having access to the latest iPad devices enabling them to access applications designed to support their learning both in the classroom and at home. It will also for the first time, give parents direct insights into their child's learning journey.

The ultimate aim of our schools is, as always, to improve outcomes and opportunities for our young people, and to help prepare them for the future. The iPad will further enhance and develop opportunities for those in our care and help us expand their frontiers.

Why FRONTIERS?

Technology is ever evolving and we need to equip our pupils with the necessary skills to thrive in the 21st century; at OAK, we want to put technology literally in the hands of every pupil.

We pride ourselves on preparing our pupils exceptionally well for the next phase in their educational journey and we intend to use the 1:1 iPad programme to enhance that position even further.

iPad will provide equity in the classroom from the very outset, providing ready access to a wide knowledge base that complements and extends our curriculum. Modelling, feedback, assessment for learning and indeed opportunities for creativity, will be more accessible, more efficient and in some cases, far more effective. Crucially, iPad also removes a variety of traditional accessibility barriers and makes learning easier for pupils with SEND or for those whom English is an additional language.

Opportunity is one of OAK's core values and by embracing 1:1 iPad, we are equipping all our staff and pupils with the digital learning tools of the next generation. Digital workflows are the norm in the modern world and OAK pupils will be fully prepared for that. As pupils transition through each of our schools, we intend to leverage the potential of mobile technology to support access to digital learning resources, anywhere, anytime.

Furthermore, we are unashamedly ambitious for our young people. The inclusive and sustainable iPad programme provides more pupils, with more opportunity to be successful in whatever career choices they may make, whether this be in the Arts, Sciences or Technology.

Why invest now?

Introducing leading edge digital technologies into OAK and its schools does have a significant financial cost and represents a commitment to ensure that our students have the best learning experience we can offer.

Capital expenditure on IT hardware, applications and infrastructure is however, nothing new and in fact associated costs have continued to rise in recent years. By leveraging economies of scale and adopting a strategic and common trust wide strategy we can in fact gain significant savings.

There are also a multitude of additional savings to be made in each school too. The most notable saving, both financially and environmentally, is that spent on photocopying and printing; having a 1:1 device and the Showbie App removes almost all need for printing and copying.

Is my child safe online?

Safeguarding is our number one priority; that includes keeping students safe online.

In order to stay safe online, students must understand the risks involved and how to manage them. First and foremost, our extensive curriculum helps students develop the skills required to stay safe in the digital world.

Building on our current provision, it is our intention to add additional layers of security and where possible exceed Department guidelines. With Frontiers, we have put in place advanced and secure filtering and on-device monitoring systems, enabling us to control all internet use on the iPads, even when the device is at home.

We are always mindful that technology evolves and no filtering and monitoring system is ever 100% safe. Parents and carers should remain vigilant and conscious of how their children are interacting with the online world, whether on a school iPad, a home device or a mobile phone.

What will I need to contribute?

All secondary school students will have access to their iPads at home just as they would in school. This means that no additional ICT hardware will be necessary for students to work on the Manor High School Curriculum.

We have worked hard to ensure costs are as low as possible and will deploy the 10th Generation, Wifi, 64GB. This particular model strikes an excellent balance between cost, specification and having a lifespan longer than school years.

Parental contributions will be set at just £6 per term to support device management and security as well as safeguarding software that runs 24/7, wherever the device is.

Students must keep their iPad in the case provided at all times - any costs due to breakage or loss will be passed onto parents. Students must also have a suitable stylus to use in school; a discounted shop that includes iPads pens will be available.

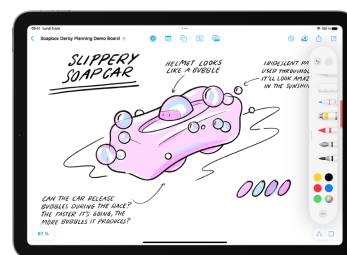Please note that parents/carers will not be able to provide their own device for use on site.

OAK
FRONTIER

What about screen time?

We fully appreciate the concerns that some parents may have that providing students with an iPad will only add to the so called 'screen-demic'.

Students already use a mix of screen and paper in school and this will be no different moving forward. Teacher practice will not differ greatly, with questioning and modelling still being a critical part of any lesson; having an iPad will greatly enhance learning and teaching experiences along with the inclusivity of the lesson and the ability for students to record and recall their learning.

In addition, students will still continue to work in groups, enjoy practical lessons and physical activities away from a screen.

For OAK, iPad is ultimately an educational tool, used under the teacher's direction and teachers will have the option to turn screens off independently, as well as fix the iPads onto a particular application.

As a Trust, we have sought advice from professionals in this area and attended a session with a Senior Consultant Paediatrician on the matter. Their view was that screen time issues were heavily related to social media and out of school activity and that 1:1 devices were fine in school. OAK Trust iPads will not have access to social media apps or accounts.

Is the end of paper and exercise books?

Absolutely not! iPad will enhance, not replace our current provision.

Deliberate practice and the use of pen and paper are important as they've always been, particularly in certain subjects.

There will be continued emphasis on developing students' writing and reading skills and students will be expected to work interchangeably with paper and iPad. It is for this reason that we have chosen to deploy a pencil-like stylus with the device, thus allowing students to maintain handwriting skills and stamina for writing.

iPad will also allow students with specific needs to access traditional materials more easily, whether that be as a magnification tool, text reader or vehicle for augmented reality.

What will FRONTIERS look like in the classroom?

All FRONTIERS teachers and secondary school students will have the latest iPad to use at school and at home. The project is based around a number of principles that teachers will follow these include:

1. Teachers will be able to use the iPad for **direct instruction and modelling** in lessons using their interactive whiteboard and **Apple TV.** Staff (and students) will be able to use an app (application) called **Explain Everything** to demonstrate live models and not be 'tied' to the front of the classroom. Instruction can be done quickly and easily and students can revisit pertinent parts on demand due to the ability to record content.
2. Teachers will have an app called **Apple Classroom** which enables them in real time to monitor, control and share the screens of all pupils in their classroom.
3. An app called **Showbie** will allow teachers to set work and **feedback** on pupils work in a way which has never before been possible. Showbie allows teachers to not only provide written comments but also use voice notes and instructional screen recordings, all bespoke to an individual student.
4. An app called **Socrative** will allow teachers to complete **live assessments** at the beginning, during and at the end of lessons providing invaluable information to gauge understanding.
5. Teachers will use the vast range of **accessibility features** built directly into iPad to support individual pupil's physical, language and learning needs.
6. All internet traffic will be filtered through **Smoothwall Filter** and all iPads will be monitored 24/7 by **Lightspeed Alert**, providing the school and parents with the confidence of a proactive student safety system.

FRONTIERS
The Future of Learning

What happens if a student forgets their iPad?

iPad will be an integral part of the Manor High Way

It is essential that every student remembers to bring their iPad into school every day and that it is charged and ready for use. It is an essential part of each student's 'ready to learn' pack, just as much as a pen!

If they forget their iPad, they will not be provided with a loan device for use for the day. Students will be provided with suitable materials to write and record their work by other means; their experience will be impacted negatively.

As the iPad is an integral piece of daily equipment, sanctions will be issued if students fail to bring them in.

Loan devices will only be used in exceptional circumstances.