



Dear Parents,

Digital learning and device requirements

We are delighted to welcome you and your family to Kimbolton Senior School. As your child prepares to begin their journey with us, we would like to share some key information about the digital learning tools they will be using and the device required.

At Kimbolton Senior School, we use Microsoft 365 as the core platform for teaching and learning. Over the next year, pupils will regularly use tools such as Teams, OneDrive, SharePoint and OneNote to organise their work, collaborate with others, and communicate with staff. To support this, pupils are required to bring a laptop to school each day. Laptops offer a range of advantages over tablets, particularly in a learning-focused environment:

- **Improved productivity:** Full keyboards and larger screens make laptops better suited for writing, research, and creative tasks.
- **Better integration:** Microsoft 365 applications run more effectively on laptops, enabling pupils to make full use of the tools we provide.
- **Reduced distractions:** Laptops support a more focused, learning-centred environment than devices typically associated with entertainment, such as tablets.

For these reasons, we have decided to phase out iPads (which current pupils use) in favour of laptops. By September 2027, it is our intention that every pupil in the Senior School will be using a laptop. Therefore, we ask that your child brings a device that meets or exceeds the following recommended minimum specifications:

Recommended minimum Windows laptop specifications

Operating System: Windows 11 or later, or macOS (**Please note no Chromebooks**)

RAM: 8GB preferred

Screen Size: 11 inches or larger

Battery Life: At least 6 hours

Keyboard: Full physical keyboard

Wi-Fi: Wi-Fi 6

Camera: Built-in (ideally)

CPU: Intel i5 or above, or AMD Ryzen 5 or above

Storage: 256GB minimum

Laptops with this specification are readily available from retailers such as John Lewis or Currys. We understand that families may wish to repurpose existing laptops that do not meet these specifications, which is absolutely fine. However, please note that the recommended specification ensures the best possible experience with our system.

Please note, you do not need to purchase Microsoft Office or Microsoft 365. Pupils will be provided with full access to the Microsoft 365 suite through the school's licence once they begin in September. Our IT team will assist with setting up your child's device, including access to school systems and Microsoft apps, shortly after they start with us.

We hope this provides clarity as you prepare for your child's transition to Kimbolton School. If you have any questions about device suitability or setup, please don't hesitate to get in touch, we're here to help.

We very much look forward to welcoming your child to Kimbolton Senior School and supporting them as they begin this exciting next stage in their education.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R Taylor', followed by a period.

Ruth Taylor
Deputy Head - Academic