

22 October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As a result of the current climate, we have all been adapting to new ways of working and going about our everyday lives. As a Trust we have promoted remote learning via digital resources and online teaching which we have accelerated since March 2020.

Over recent months our IT Department has concentrated their efforts on negotiating a deal with Stone Group, an IT provider and financing company for laptops, that our parents/carers can purchase. The following options have been found to deliver a reliable and affordable package, including a 3 year warranty, 3 years' accidental damage and theft (ADT) cover, and a device case, for our students:

Device	Cash payment	8 monthly instalments	20 monthly instalments	32 monthly instalments	Estimated delivery date
Stonebook Lite	£658.51	£87.40	£37.40	£24.87	5 December 2020
Apple 13" MacBook Air	£1,009.26	£88.85	£47.36	£33.47	16 December 2020
HP K12 13"	£894.16	£78.84	£42.07	£29.76	3 February 2021

StoneBook Lite



- 14" Screen
- Intel i3-1005G1 Processor
- 8GB Ram DDR4
- Western Digital Green 120GB M.2 Hard Drive
- Windows 10 Pro

Apple 13" MacBook Air



- 13" screen
- Intel Core i3 Processor 10th Gen
- 256GB SSD
- 8GB Ram

HP K12 13"



- 13" Touch Screen Flip 2-1
- 256GB SSD Hard Drive
- 8GB Ram
- Windows 10

For students in Years 7 – 9, parents/carers will have the option of paying by one of the four options detailed above.

For students in Years 10 and 12, parents/carers will have the option of paying by cash, or by 8 monthly or 20 monthly instalments, as detailed above.

For students in Years 11 and 13, parents/carers will have the option of paying by cash or by 8 monthly instalments, as detailed above.

Orders must be placed by Friday 8 November 2020 and if opting to pay by monthly instalments, the first direct debit payments would be collected on 25 November 2020.

Why have we chosen these devices?

There is a wide range of tablet and laptop-style devices available on the market. We have conducted extensive research when considering the types of device that would be best suited to students in our schools and for the specification and cost these are by far the best ones.

How to place an order

This is the weblink to order:

www.tech4learners.co.uk

Here is the username and password:

Username – Notley20

Password – S3cure02!

You will need to do the following

- Create an account
- Select the payment option of your choice
- Place your order

Future implications

One of the consequences of our response to COVID-19 has been to bring forward, by 24 months, our strategic plans for the use of IT across our Trust. Some of our discussions have already been around how digital devices might enhance the learning for our students and some examples are given below:

- Create, share and collaborate using the Microsoft Office 365 suite tools to increase the potential of peer assessment and collaborative learning approaches;
- Organise homework and classwork through Microsoft Teams allowing easy access;
- Use excellent learning resources from our web based tools, including up-to-date and relevant e-textbooks, where appropriate;
- Use digital tools to support research and writing. For example, academic bibliography and citation tools, read aloud and voice recognition tools to promote independent learning;
- Greater opportunities for differentiation within the class to meet students' needs;
- Effective assessment for learning in and out of the lesson to both redirect the lesson and aid long term planning based on students' learning.

It is important to recognise that we do not believe that digital devices will replace the teaching that takes place in our schools, but we believe it can certainly enhance what we already do well. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact CS@FreedomTech.co.uk or by telephone, 0203 857 5670.

Yours faithfully



Mr R James
CEO NEMAT