

Dear Parent

**Re: Mobile devices apps focus in lessons**

Next term, our Teaching and Learning focus will be on the use of mobile devices in lessons. The purpose of this half term project is to evaluate the use of BYOD in school and how it can facilitate teaching and learning across the key stages.

**What is BYOD?**

BYOD is short for “Bring Your Own Device”. Bring your own device is the concept of allowing staff and students to bring their own personal mobile devices into school and be able to access ICT during lessons.

Traditionally schools have provided computers in offices and classrooms for staff and students to use, and in recent years have extended this to providing laptops and tablets; however in recent years there has been a huge growth in the use and ownership of smartphones and tablets, especially amongst the students.

St. Martha's School is looking to enable the use of these devices by its students in supporting teaching and learning within the school. While some schools are providing or requesting that parents purchase tablets for school use, we are looking at an alternative way to use the network the school has already invested in to provide use of IT to students, without additional costs to the school or to parents.

**What do we mean by “Supporting Teaching and Learning”?**

While there are no plans to replace or reduce the ICT Resources available to students at St. Martha's, we do see the opportunity for students to use mobile devices to support their learning.

Our view is that the majority of students make use of smartphones and tablets, are highly proficient in their use and that these devices can be effectively used as a “digital pencil case” in school.

**How could BYOD be used in the curriculum to support teaching and learning?**

An example would be in an English lesson where students could use their mobile devices to do internet research about a certain author or book for a part of their lesson without having to book an ICT Suite and have the disruption caused by moving the class to an ICT Suite.

**Independent Catholic School for Girls**

Camlet Way, Hadley Wood, Barnet, Herts, EN4 0NJ, UK

Tel: 020 8449 6889 Fax: 020 8441 5632 Email: [office@saint-marthas.org.uk](mailto:office@saint-marthas.org.uk) Website: [www.st-marthas.co.uk](http://www.st-marthas.co.uk)

 [@stmarthas\\_head](https://twitter.com/stmarthas_head)

Registered Charity No. 233809



Another example would be in a Photography lesson, where we provide the students with a number of Apple iMac computers with professional Editing software but part of the course is to record the work they have done – while doing it. Traditionally this means swapping back and forth from one application to another, or having to take screen shots and print them to put into a work book. However, if a student can make use of their mobile phone and a suitable application, they can take notes, pictures, record audio and video onto that device to allow them to document as they go.

### **Financial / Insurance Information**

It is not compulsory for students to bring personal devices to school if parents do not wish them to do so.

Also enclosed with this letter are the Mobile devices agreement documents that are to be returned after the Christmas holidays.

Yours sincerely

**Dr M Wall**  
**Director of Studies**

### **Independent Catholic School for Girls**

Camlet Way, Hadley Wood, Barnet, Herts, EN4 0NJ, UK

Tel: 020 8449 6889 Fax: 020 8441 5632 Email: [office@saint-marthas.org.uk](mailto:office@saint-marthas.org.uk) Website: [www.st-marthas.co.uk](http://www.st-marthas.co.uk)

 [@stmarthas\\_head](https://twitter.com/stmarthas_head)

Registered Charity No. 233809

