

MANOR

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY, YORK

Established 1812 • Principal: Mr Brian Crosby NPQH, BEd (Hons)



Dear Parents,

Every now and then a new technological advance comes along and is so revolutionary that education will not be the same again. Whether it is the printing press or the Internet, the way in which we find knowledge and apply it to our learning has always had moments of revolutionary change.

Over the last 20 years we have interacted with new forms of IT on a regular basis. We have seen the introduction of the BBC computers in classrooms and new desktop machines used to find knowledge and run educational programs. New laptops have now become portable and we can use WiFi.

Today, we have over 250 laptops available throughout the school. We are now undertaking another major step-forward in the use of ICT. This step places in the hand of every student a simple piece of technology to support their learning. They can now have a device that can go with them, it is theirs, and they can use it at home or at school.

We are not investing in technology for technology's sake. At each step we want to know how it will aid learning. How will it help with the assessment of learning, and how will it aid the interactions between the students and staff? We will still be writing in books with pens, we will put technology away in many lessons, and we will still discuss and debate. This is another exciting tool for learning, but not the only tool.

There are many dangers and opportunities for the use of this technology. We believe the opportunities far out way the dangers. However, we need to think carefully about how to minimise the dangers of the wider access to the Internet. Our students will within a few years be away from home. Parents and school will have lost control of these students use of technology. We can, therefore, start to train young people in the safe and appropriate use of their devices.

This policy is our means of setting guidance and controls, and we ask for your full support in its implementation. Your son or daughters safety is our paramount concern, and we will do everything within our powers to ensure safe use of the one-to-one technology.

Regards,

Brian Crosby
Principal