



DEVICE FOR LEARNING POLICY 2025

What is our digital learning philosophy?

At Shrewsbury we take seriously our responsibility to ensure that our pupils develop the digital skills they need to thrive at school and thereafter in higher education and the world of work, in the same way as that we take seriously our responsibility to prepare them academically, physically and emotionally. The use of technology is now deeply integrated into all aspects of education and having the correct device for learning is crucial for pupils to access the whole curriculum.

Our experience has shown that consistency among devices and software is essential for the learning process so that content and skills can be accessed reliably by all members of the class. We have chosen to use Windows 11 devices and Microsoft software throughout the School, for the reasons outlined below, and we therefore require our pupils to develop proficiency at using their operating systems and range of software applications. In 2024 we were awarded Microsoft Showcase School Status.

What device do pupils need?

Pupils joining Shrewsbury should have one of the following Windows 11 Pro devices. This should be purchased through our portal so that they are configured and monitored as explained further in this policy. The full specifications and packages will be displayed on the portal when it opens in May but a basic comparison can be seen here. These devices are not commercial models but bespoke education models.



	Lenovo 13w 2-in-1 Gen 3	Lenovo ThinkPad L13 2-in-1 Gen 5	Microsoft Surface Pro 11
Display	13.3" Multi Touch Corning® Gorilla® Glass	13.3" WUXGA (1920x1200) IPS 300nits Anti-reflection / Anti-smudge, 100% sRGB, Touch	13"(PixelSense™ Flow display
Minimum Processor	13th Generation Intel® Core™ i5-1334U Processor	Intel® Core™ Ultra 5 125U Processor	Intel® Core™ Ultra processor 5
Core Spec	16GB RAM 256GB SSD	16GB RAM 256GB SSD	16GB RAM 512GB SSD
Battery Life	Up to 15 Hours	Up to 15 Hours	Up to 14 Hours
OS	Windows 11 Pro	Windows 11 Pro	Windows 11 Pro
Pros and cons comparison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent entry level device, still high spec. Hard wearing for education use. In built stylus so can't be lost 5MP RGB World Facing Camera with Microphone Not as premium feel as the exec level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exec level Lenovo device, high quality feel and performance. In built stylus so can't be lost Good range of port options Higher purchase price than the entry level option. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tablet with detachable keyboard High spec premium Microsoft Device High quality stylus, keyboard and case included. High purchase price, not as hard wearing Limited port options
Package Price	£820	£1178	£1721

How do I purchase a device?

You will be able to login and buy one of these devices from our partners Edutech Zone Ltd on our bespoke [purchasing portal](#). The portal is open, between 23rd May 2025 and 30th June 2025 to allow orders to be collated and dispatched directly from the suppliers in bulk. All financial transactions are with the partner directly and are not with the school, who do not make any financial gain from the purchase of these devices. You can contact EduTech directly with this email address: support@edutechstore.zone.

You can purchase a Shrewsbury School Device from the following portal:

<https://shrewsbury.edutechstore.zone>

The portal is open for orders between May 23rd and June 30th.

What about Device Warranty and Insurance?

It is important to consider that students don't always take the best care of their devices and that they need to be transported everyday between lessons. Therefore, accidental damage insurance is highly recommended. When you purchase your child's device you will have three options:

1. **No protection**
2. **2 Year Mechanical Warranty (no excess) and Accidental Damage Cover (no excess)**
3. **3 Year Mechanical Warranty (no excess) and Accidental Damage Cover (no excess)**

When will my child get their new device?

Once ordered, the devices will then arrive at School in the final week of August and pupils will receive their device on their first day from their Housemaster/Housemistress as part of their initial induction. All devices will be pre-configured for our systems and software and will be security labelled with your child's name.

Does the school manage my child's device?

The school IT Team manages all pupil devices to make sure that pupil devices are fully protected and so is our network. Devices will also run Classroom.Cloud software by Net Support which we use for safeguarding our pupils whilst they use their devices at school. In terms of safeguarding, this software allows our Head of Online Safety and Deputy Head Pastoral to monitor online activity, identify students at risk, and spot concerning trends. The software can also be used by teachers to make sure pupils are staying on task during academic lessons when they are using their devices. Devices will have the full version of Microsoft 365 applications installed and they will run Windows 11 Pro. They will have the schools enhanced anti-viral protection running on them which enables our IT team to keep the wider network safe, bridging the gaps in security from device to device. The school will push updates out as needed and will keep the device secure on our network, but pupils will retain ownership of their device. When pupils leave the school, devices will be wiped and reset so that the pupil can have full control of their device again.

What if my child already has a device they want to bring?

Pupils must have one of these devices as their primary learning device. Currently, other devices can be brought into school for personal use in House, such as iPads or Macbooks, but these are not acceptable for classroom use. All teachers will expect school devices to be available to be used in lessons.

If you already have a Windows 11 device with the same functionality and Windows 11 Pro installed then our IT Support Team can add it onto our management software when your child has arrived at Shrewsbury. Contact itsupport@shrewsbury.org.uk for more information on this process.

Parents from Packwood will be contacted directly regarding handing in their child's device which will then be reset and added to the Shrewsbury Systems ready for August.

Why Windows Laptops?



360 Fold / 2 in 1 hybrid



Windows 11



Stylus



Touch screen



Light weight



Good battery life



Rear and front facing cameras



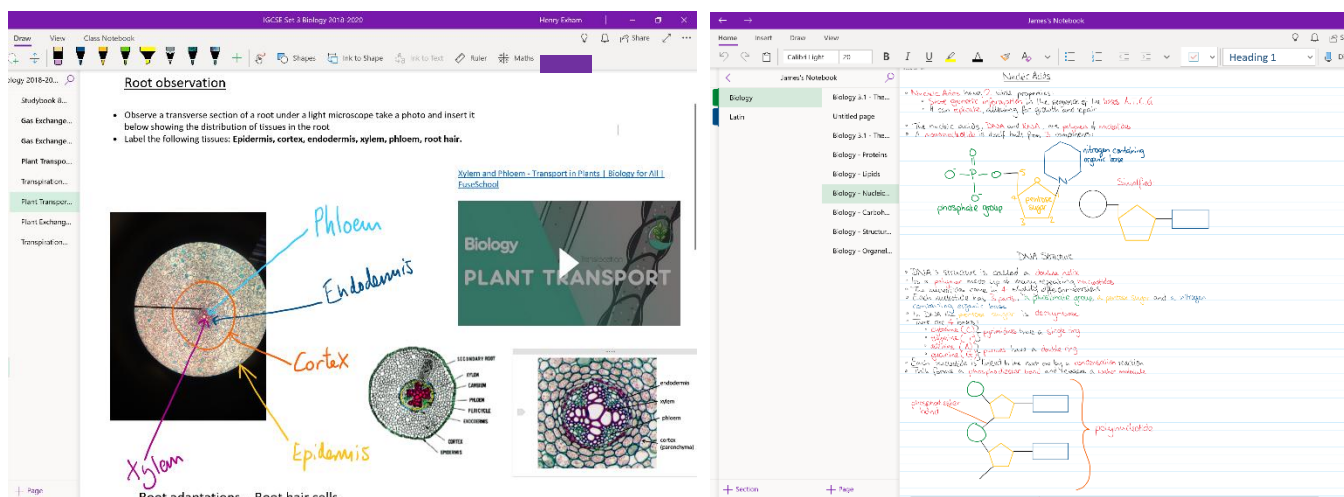
Full versions of Microsoft Applications

We have been using Windows Devices at Shrewsbury for a number of years now. With their "2 in 1 form factor" or ability to fold flat with 360 mode, these devices offer the best compromise between a full laptop experience and the flexibility of a tablet. The ability to effectively combine hand-written notes, diagrams and mathematical notation with typed text is increasingly advantageous for pupils' learning and so we also use Microsoft 365 software with access to Microsoft Teams and OneNote both in lessons and for Top Schools (homework). A device that can blend written and typed information opens the way for a multitude of applications in the classroom. Therefore, the stylus pen becomes of huge benefit to learning, especially in subjects such as maths, art, chemistry, physics and DT where a standard keyboard simply isn't an appropriate or natural way to interact with work. Teachers are also provided with one of these devices, allowing them to devise tasks and lesson activities with confidence knowing that it will work on all pupil devices, and they will be able to help them if they have any issues.

What will pupils be using their device for?

Every pupil will use Microsoft Teams for digital access to their classes and other groups they are associated with in the school. All Top Schools (homework) are set on Microsoft Teams as assignments. Pupils will take their devices with them in their school bag every day so that they have them available for when the teachers choose to use them in lessons. Pupils will use our SharePoint Intranet along with their school email, to access all their daily information and they will also have access to a vast range of resources to help support their independent learning.

Teachers have developed innovative and effective ways of using technology to further learning. These are now integrated into their normal ways of teaching. One example of this is the widespread use of Microsoft OneNote. This is a complete system for note taking, distributing work, completing work, filing and feedback. This is one specific area where the use of a stylus on a digital device is invaluable as it allows pupils to draw, sketch, annotate as well as type. Pupils quickly see the benefits of being able to store hand-written and typed work in one place. The teacher is able to mark the Top Schools in the notebook with their device and leave feedback in situ.



Some examples of work completed by Shrewsbury School students on OneNote

Our digital skills programme, called EQUIP, is embedded into the Third Form Origins Curriculum and from the very start of their time at Shrewsbury, pupils will be exposed to and taught a range of IT skills in all their subjects. This will include the use of Microsoft 365 tools (Teams, Word, PowerPoint, Excel, OneNote and OneDrive), media skills and an AI literacy module delivered through their computing lessons. By embedding digital skills into the curriculum, pupils learn digital skills with genuine context and are much more likely to apply them to other areas of their learning.



What about device security?

- All devices will be labelled securely by EduTech.
- Devices on our management system can be securely wiped and recovered (subject to the schools OneDrive Cloud Back-up) if needed.
- Household insurance may provide some protection but please check your policy. While the main school insurance does not cover pupils' personal belongings, parents can elect to purchase Marsh's pupils' personal effects insurance via the school, or alternatively other insurance is available if you purchase independently. The best advice is to take out the insurance on offer from EduTech for full protection.
- We have an excellent IT support team who are willing to help pupils who are having issues with their device. However, they cannot carry out hardware repairs. This would need to be organised via your own means or through your insurance. If you purchased warranty or insurance through the portal, then claims should be arranged with the portal providers directly. They can be contacted as follows: support@edutechstore.zone phone number 0203 393 8735.
- We do have a small supply of spare Microsoft Surface devices and styluses in the IT Support Office that can be loaned to pupils if they are waiting for their own device to be repaired.

The Acceptable Usage Policy

The school takes cyber safety seriously. All pupils sign our ICT Acceptable Use Policy annually and receive regular reminders of IT responsibilities, ethics and digital citizenship. We run enterprise-grade internet filtering to minimise inappropriate use and protect the school network. Pupils are therefore monitored when they connect to our wireless network.

Owner: Henry Exham – Head of Digital Learning - hsme@shrewsbury.org.uk

April 2025



Best use of Education Technology