



# 1:1 SCHEME

# LHA



**Our 1:1 Device for Students Scheme portal is now open for a limited time until 10th July 2023.**

The scheme gives parents the opportunity to purchase a device for their child to use in lessons and at home. All of the advice and curriculum research indicates the more students that have access to a device, the more impact it has on learning in the classroom. That is why we have worked hard to find a competitively priced solution with a high specification to ensure longevity.

We hope that this year, as in previous years, the uptake will be very high with parents welcoming this strategy to enhance student learning.



Dear Parent /Carer,

As part of our digital strategy, we continue to move to a model in which all students from Year 7 – Year 11 will have access to the use of devices in school. We are inviting all Year 7 students to sign up to the scheme to purchase their own school compliant device. The device will be used in the classroom for some learning activities and at home to continue to develop and support the blended curriculum.

This way of working has undoubtedly been expedited by the experience of two national lockdowns, periods of 'bubble isolation' with students learning from home and the prospect of future periods of online learning. Indeed, these experiences have highlighted the importance of continuity of education remotely, should it be required again soon or in the future.

However, our digital strategy is about more than this: it is about the students of Lostock Hall Academy having access to the most up-to-date technology to support exciting and powerful learning experiences in the classroom, and the independent study behaviours to prepare for higher education and careers.

The device selected for 2023 has been chosen because we believe the specification is sufficient to support the blended learning requirements for the 5 years your child will be studying with us, however, there will be an option to start a new lease and upgrade at the end of the Year 9 should you wish to do so. The device will be fully protected for warranty issues and accidental damage for the full term of the lease, offering peace of mind and no risk of additional cost.

The Lostock Hall Academy scheme to support all students with their own personal device is a long term one, but the window to sign up to the scheme only opens once a year, to ensure that all students wishing to upgrade their device and renew their lease at the end of the scheme do so at the same time. Our window for signing up will run from **today up to and including 10th July 2023**. The first monthly direct debit will be due on **25th July** (next working day) and the devices will be issued to students early in the Autumn term. **Please note if your direct debit fails then your order will be cancelled.**

The link to the portal is <https://www.tech4learners.co.uk/users/login>

**Username: LHA2023 Password: S3cure02!**

We do hope that parents and students will welcome this strategy and join us by signing up to a scheme that we believe offers exceptional value for money, which will strengthen teaching and learning at Lostock Hall Academy and prepare our students for a digital world beyond their time at the Academy.

We have put together some FAQs which we hope will answer any questions that you may have. If you believe you might qualify for financial assistance, then you can submit an application form detailing your circumstances. Please request a form by emailing [finance@lostockhallacademy.org](mailto:finance@lostockhallacademy.org)

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Butterworth  
Director of Teaching and Learning



Mrs Jones  
Director of Business and Finance





### Which device have you chosen for LHA students and why?

We have elected to equip our students with the following high-quality device:

**Acer TravelMate Spin Pentium 4GB 128GB SSD, IPS Touch Screen Flip complete with stylus**

After trialling a wide range of devices, from entry level laptops to high end tablets, we feel that our chosen device has the functionality to access the entire suite of Microsoft applications and combines all the benefits of a tablet and a traditional laptop in a smaller, lighter size. The specification of our chosen device will ensure its longevity over the 3 year lease and up to the 5 years of study at LHA. We are confident that it will be a popular choice with our students.

This device is an education specific device. It has a ruggedised design and is suitable to be carried in a sturdy water resistant student school bag. No additional carry bag is required.

### Why not iPads?

LHA adopted the IT strategy to become a fully integrated Microsoft School in 2017 and our ambition is to become a Microsoft Showcase School. The introduction of one common Management Information System across LHA in 2018 paved the way to design and introduce a school wide SharePoint site and move teachers and students to a cloud-based solution using OneDrive and the Office 365 suite of applications and products.

The Microsoft range of applications is world-class and will set LHA students up for the world of work or university. Students will leave LHA confident with the Office 365 suite of products, which is the elite work- place standard, globally. Students will be trained in using OneDrive and develop practical working knowledge of cloud storage which will prepare them for industry — whatever route they choose.

Apple iPads are not fully integrated with the Microsoft operating platform and would limit the potential for use in teaching and learning.

### I have just purchased a device for my son/daughter to use at home, why should I sign up to the LHA scheme?

No-one has to opt in to this scheme: it is voluntary. However, there are significant advantages to doing so.

Although this device will have all the functionality of a personal device, it will be set up on the school system, which will enable your child to work more effectively from home. This means that when your son/daughter logs in from home they will have access to all the same systems and information they have at school.

This device is very likely to become an integral part of each student's school equipment. Students will be encouraged to use their device in class, file their notes electronically, and collaborate with their peers and teachers.

### Will my son/daughter be able to bring their own personal device into school to lessons if we don't sign up to the scheme?

Unfortunately, no. Personal devices are not subject to the same safeguarding measures as the LHA device and school cannot be responsible for the content accessed and viewed within school.

### Will the device be monitored by school?

All devices will be monitored for safeguarding purposes during the school day.

### What happens to the device at the end of the lease?

At the end of the lease the device is yours. For as long as your child is studying at LHA they will be able to access the school systems from the device however the warranty and accidental damage Guaranteed Repair Service will no longer be valid.

When your child leaves the academy LHA access will be removed and they will be able to continue using the device as a personal computer.

### Who legally owns the device?

Freedom Tech Ltd owns the device until the final parental instalment is paid, when ownership will transfer to you. If you elect

to pay upfront you will own the device from the outset but will still be covered by the 3 year warranty.

### How do I sign up to the scheme?

Follow the link in the flyer to the LHA and Freedom Tech portal and sign up to the scheme. The portal is open until 10th July 2023. You will be asked to enter your direct debit details if you choose to pay monthly. If paying monthly, your first payment will be debited from your account on 25th July 2023. If opting to pay up front, your payment will be taken immediately.

### When will the device arrive?

Once you have registered with the portal, the devices will be delivered to school and the LHA IT Support Team will issue students with their device and set students up on their device in school at the start of the Autumn term 2023.

### What happens if I do not sign up to the scheme and then change my mind, can we join the scheme later in the year?

Unfortunately, no. The portal to sign up to the scheme usually opens once a year, this is to ensure that the 3-year leases all renew at the same time and to ensure that students aren't continually coming to the end of their leases throughout the academic year. The highly competitive price we have secured for these devices fluctuates with demand and uptake and Freedom Technology cannot guarantee the same monthly payment in any future portal openings.

The Freedom Tech portal will open again at the same time next year for the new upcoming Year 7 students at which point other students will be welcome to sign up.

This approach is not in the control of LHA but is the way the scheme operates successfully in hundreds of other schools.

### How have the school ensured value for money when selecting this scheme?

A team of senior leaders, supported by Governors, have spent time investigating numerous different options, from a wide range of suppliers. We have consulted several other schools nationally, building a picture of what works in schools similar to LHA and what does not. We found from all our research that Freedom Tech offered value for money to our families.



### I would like to buy additional accessories for my son/daughter's device, is this okay?

Yes, this is fine. Additional accessories such as headphones or a mouse etc.. would not be included in the warranty package and should be insured through personal home insurance plans in case of loss.

### If most students have an identical device, how will you ensure that they don't get mixed up?

When students are on board we are going to encourage them to set their lock screen as a picture of themselves or something which easily identifies them should they misplace their device around school. Students are also welcome to use stickers or a named case to ensure their device is easily recognised. All serial numbers will be logged before issue.

### What happens if we don't sign up to the scheme and my son/daughter does not have access to a device in lessons and other students do?

All of the advice and our own research indicates that the more students that have access to a device, the more impact it has on learning in the classrooms - this is why we have worked hard to provide a device with

such high specification at such a competitive price for parents. We would be delighted if all of our students opted into the scheme. However, we accept that not all parents will want to join the scheme. Therefore, in the short term, we plan to maintain a small number of devices which can be booked out for lessons where a device is needed. It will be the responsibility of the student to collect the device and return it to the IT Desk after the lesson.

### What happens if my son/daughter damages the device or it breaks down?

This is covered by the Guaranteed Repair Service provided by Freedom Technology. All of this is handled by staff at the academy. We take away any hassle for you. We will assess the device, arrange for on site repair where possible and if not we'll take care of the collection of the device. We'll even provide a temporary replacement for your child to use.

The device we have chosen is extremely reliable and has been selected with that criteria in mind.

Please be aware the stylus and charger are not covered by the insurance,

### What support will LHA provide to ensure that my son/daughter uses the device properly and gets the most out of it?

A comprehensive programme of training will be implemented for all students and teachers to ensure the devices not only ease home learning but also develop learning in classrooms. We also fully expect our enterprising students to lead the way in the use of new technologies and look forward to working with them to ensure we implement the strategies which work for them.

### How do I claim for warranty, accidental damage or theft?

This will be handled on your behalf by staff at LHA.

### What is the excess on claims?

There is no excess on either the accidental damage, theft or warranty protection. This is a huge benefit of this scheme.

### Do I have to pay monthly?

You can pay an amount per month over 36 months or you can pay the full amount in one upfront payment. You would still benefit from the 3 year warranty and accidental damage and theft package, whichever option you choose.

There are no credit checks and the scheme is open to all incoming Year 7 students.

### What happens if I miss a payment?

Missed payments are managed by Freedom Tech's in-house team who will contact you, review payment plans and bring parents/ carers back up to date.

### If I have any further queries, who can I speak to?

If you have any queries about the initial sign up period please email [admin@lostockhallacademy.org](mailto:admin@lostockhallacademy.org) clearly stating your son/daughter's name and year group in the title of the email and somebody from the team will get back to you.



**FREEDOM**  
TECHNOLOGY

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