

3rd February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Introduction of iPad Stylus Pens for students

As part of our continued commitment to providing an exceptional learning experience for all students, we are delighted to announce the next step in our ACE Digital Strategy. Alongside the iPads already issued to students, we will now be providing iPad stylus pens to further enhance their learning experience.

The introduction of stylus pens is aimed at expanding the potential of our digital learning approach. Over the past months, students have benefited greatly from using iPads in conjunction with Showbie to improve access to learning resources, enhance their literacy skills, and support both learning and assessment. The addition of stylus pens will take this even further, enabling students to:

- **Take more precise notes** and annotate resources directly on their iPads, enhancing their organisation and study skills.
- **Engage more effectively** with written tasks, and in creative and technical subjects, such as art, design, and mathematics, where precision is key.
- **Complete assessments with ease**, particularly those that require handwritten input or detailed diagrams.
- **Bridge the gap between traditional and digital learning**, enabling a seamless blend of handwriting and technology.

We believe this investment will further empower students to maximize their educational potential, making their learning more interactive, personalized, and effective. However, the introduction of the stylus pen will not replace traditional handwriting skills. These will continue to be an important part of our curriculum and will be used alongside digital strategies to provide a well-rounded approach to education. Students will continue to complete independent and longer written tasks in their exercise books and examinations.

The introduction of the stylus pens aligns with our vision of Empowering Learners for Life by integrating technology meaningfully into their education. This initiative comes at no additional cost to parents/carers, and we are confident it will bring tremendous benefits to your child's learning experience. We kindly request your support in ensuring your child takes care of their stylus pen, as it is a vital learning tool, ensuring they bring it charged each day, along with their iPad. In the event of loss or damage, please let us know so we can arrange replacements. We will be setting up a parental contribution of £5 on ParentPay to enable the replacement of lost iPad stylus pens. Just like the iPads, the pens remain the property of the Academy and are due to be returned when your child leaves the school.

Thank you for your continued support in embracing our ACE Digital strategy. If you have any questions or queries regarding this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr Matthew Jackson
Head of Technology/Leader of ACE Digital Strategy