



DOHA BRITISH SCHOOL

Our core purpose is that every learner gains as much from DBS as possible. This is based on our belief that all learners can, need and want to achieve.

8 December 2015

Dear Parents,

Digital Learning Pilot Scheme – Year 10

I am writing to inform you of plans to pilot a digital learning scheme with Year 10, beginning January 2016. The aim is to incorporate more digital skills throughout the school day. Our intention is to simply incorporate the smartphones that most of our students have in their bags or pockets as tools for their learning and as part of their school kit. This is something the students have been doing already, but because of the benefits to their learning, it is something we would like to trial on a more formal basis. The scheme (known as BYOD - bring your own device) runs successfully at a huge number of schools worldwide and is intended to enrich students education; it is therefore something we at Doha British School would like to develop.

To participate, each student will be required to 'expand their pencil case' by bringing either a smartphone or a tablet that they will use at various points in their daily lessons. If your child already brings a smartphone to school (which is the case for the majority of Year 10) and you are happy for them to use this, **then nothing needs to be done.**

If your child does not bring a smartphone to school, then it is important to note that participation is **not** compulsory. However, if you do wish for your child to participate and they do not currently own a device, our requirements are minimal, we simply ask that they have a good battery life, good WiFi connectivity and ideally run either Android or iOS (the Google and Apple operating systems). The supermarkets here in Qatar offer reasonably priced options for branded tablets and smartphones.

We will provide a list of apps that the students should have installed prior to using the devices in class. Students will be required to ensure their device is charged each day and an agreement will be sent out to clarify how the pilot scheme will run. Unfortunately we cannot accept responsibility for maintaining the devices or any damage they incur (the same as the current situation regarding phones in school). It is also worth highlighting that this pilot is to enhance lessons and students will still be expected to put devices away during break and lunch. If you have queries or concerns, feel free to email me directly michael.constantino@dohabritishschool.com

If successful, we intend to roll the scheme out further and will communicate plans with you once we have analysed feedback from the pilot scheme. Thank you in advance for your support.

Kind regards

Michael Constantino
Assistant Headteacher; Digital Teaching and Learning