



Meet the DfE standards –
without meeting them the hard way
Old devices cost more than new ones.

The risk is real

- Official government data recorded a 93% year-on-year rise in cyber attacks on the UK education sector¹, with ransomware and phishing campaigns specifically targeting pupil data and payment systems.
- Cyber Essentials is now treated as the baseline expectation and is increasingly required for grant funding. Unsupported operating systems are an automatic Cyber Essentials failure.
- UK organisations lose roughly 98 hours a year to slow and failing technology². In a school, that translates directly to disrupted lessons and lost teaching time.

The case for refresh

- **Standards alignment:** Current Windows 11 devices meet DfE device and cyber security standards and maintain Cyber Essentials eligibility in one move.
- **Budget focus:** A planned refresh offers predictable per-device pricing via education frameworks, lower support overheads, and trade-in options for your old estate.
- **Safeguarding-ready:** Modern devices integrate cleanly with KCSiE-compliant filtering and monitoring systems.
- **Classroom benefits:** Fast boot times and all-day batteries eliminate the mid-day charging trolley shuffle. On-device AI supports accessibility features like Live Captions and translation at no extra subscription cost.

What's at stake

The DfE Digital and Technology Standards (covering devices, cyber security, filtering, monitoring, and IT support) are increasingly cited in funding decisions and inspection regimes.

The Academy Trust Handbook 2026 strengthens the position on these standards from October 2026. DfE guidance recommends devices are reviewed annually, as emergency replacement of failed devices costs more than planned, framework-priced refreshes.

Featured XMA Solutions

XMA partners with Microsoft to equip schools with reliable Copilot+ PCs.

- **XMA Student Solution:** A durable Copilot+ device with an all-day battery to keep students learning without interruption.
- **XMA Educator Solution:** A fast-booting Copilot+ PC that features built-in AI tools to support accessibility and lesson planning.

Why XMA?

XMA maintains a strong presence on education frameworks and brings proven MAT-scale deployment experience. We offer summer deployment scheduling and device buy-back and recycling services to stretch school budgets further.

[Book a device estate review today](#)

Get in touch

-  www.xma.co.uk
-  enquiries@xma.co.uk
-  [@xma](#)
-  [@WeAreXMA](#)

1. Cyber security breaches survey 2024: education institutions annex - GOV.UK

2. <https://news.samsung.com/uk/dead-ringers-samsung-pay-homage-to-hollywood-hits-in-new-a-series-enterprise-edition-campaign>