# 1 to 1 vs BYOD at Leeds Beckett University

This exemplar is relevant to Digital Student challenges:

*Develop coherent policies for 'Bring Your Own'*
*Ensure an inclusive student experience, using technology to overcome disadvantage*

Leeds Beckett University's continually aims to improve accessibility and inclusivity of the student experience and digital literacy is one of the University's graduate attributes. The University has long had a policy of loaning out laptops and other digital equipment to students and staff, but there were some conversations about what it would be like if each student was provided with a personal device available for learning. The University decided to pilot a '1 to 1' scheme, whereby more than 380 tablet devices were deployed to staff and students as a personal device. This activity also recognised the role of students in improving the digital literacy skills of their peers and staff. Four student 'digital champion' roles are being considered, of which one of their roles will be running staff / student development sessions with support from the Students Union and the Centre for Learning and Teaching. There is also a new 'digital learning forum' where staff (academic and support) and students can share ideas on all matters relating to the use of digital technologies in learning.

Early results show that staff and (to a slightly lesser degree) students prefer '1 to 1' provision to a 'bring your own device' (BYOD) approach in the context of learning and teaching use. Students are reassured that they have the 'right' kit and that other students can keep up too. Staff feel confident that they are offering an equal learning experience and can rely on students having access to the services and applications they want to use.

Focus group comments included the fact that staff had increased portability and flexibility to communicate with their students. Some students commented on the devices being 'liberating', with the ability it access learning resources more readily without 'having to log into a pc'. Additional benefits were that overseas students often used the Google Translate feature to support their understanding of key terms and other students stated that they felt it was a 'better learning experience' and 'collaborative'.

### How does this meet the challenge?

- '1 to 1' ensures that all students can access the devices, apps and services essential to learning – no-one is left behind.
- Students feel that the university is giving them what they need to succeed.
- Through the digital champions and staff/student digital learning forum, students are fully involved in how the devices are used for learning and teaching.
- Staff can use digital innovations in their teaching, confident that students are expecting digital devices to be used and are equipped for the challenge.

**Find out more**

- [Changing the Learning Landscape summary report](#)

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