



Laptops, Tablets, and Mobile Phones

Using your laptop, tablet or mobile phone is part of everyday life for any student, so it's important to know how to protect the work and personal data you're likely to store on them.

Give our advice a try:

- Keep your computer passwords to yourself and try to use a combination of letters and numbers that won't be obvious to anyone. It's best to avoid obvious passwords like family names, dates of birth, nick names etc for this reason;
- Don't leave your laptop, tablet or mobile phone unattended, even in the library. Consider downloading a tracking device and register your valuables with immobilise - <http://www.immobilise.com/> ;
- Make sure you keep a back up of important work like coursework on an external hard drive. If your computer gets stolen, so will all your hard work!
- If you use social networking sites like Facebook, be careful how much personal information you use. Fraudsters can piece together lots of small pieces of information to steal your identity. This is known as identity theft;
- When it comes to sharing information via social media, think about the pictures you upload who may be able to view or share them. Don't share material online which you wouldn't be happy for your family or work colleagues to see;
- If you are carrying a laptop to and from university, carry it a sports holdall or other type of bag rather than a laptop bag that makes it obvious exactly what you are carrying.