Aylesbury High School Moving to 1:1



Why?

Almost all of us are using ICT in our everyday lives, in ways that we would never have envisaged just a few years ago.



We believe that we have now reached the point at AHS where students would benefit greatly from much easier access to ICT. The pressure is coming from both staff and students, who are all keen to exploit the power of ICT in and out of class. As you may recall from previous communications



and after a lot of consultation and research, with the support of parents we are moving to a 1:1 system, meaning that all students will have their own device.

It is difficult to overstate the size of this change in terms of how teachers will teach and how students will learn (although I must pay tribute to the great

work that is already going on across the school and the way that everyone has embraced GSuite and other tools over the past few years). There will obviously be plenty of times when ICT plays no part in lessons and, unless and until exams go on-line, there will continue to be a real need to keep using pen and paper for the moment. However, using the power of technology whenever it is appropriate will allow us to transform teaching and learning at Aylesbury High School.

Employers, universities and the economy are all wanting our students to flourish in an increasingly digital world and we believe that now is the right time to go 1:1.

This letter is just the start of the process so we look forward to an exciting and productive journey with staff, students and parents over the next year or so!

What?

- By September 2018, all students will have access to a suitable device in all lessons.
- Our long-term plan is for KS3 and KS4 to use Chromebooks and to allow Sixth Form students to 'Bring Your Own Device' (BYOD).
- Students in the current Years 10 and 11 will be allowed to BYOD from September as we establish this scheme.
- Chromebooks will be purchased through the school (see FAQs).







When?

| CURRENT YEAR | Start 1:1 | Chromebooks on sale (or BYOD) | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| (6) | September 2018 | Chromebooks | |
| 7 | April 2018 | Chromebooks | |
| 8 | April 2018 | Chromebooks | |
| 9 | September 2018 (start of Y10) | Chromebooks | |
| 10 | September 2018 (start of Y11) | Chromebooks or BYOD | |
| 11 | September 2018 (start of Y12) | Chromebooks or BYOD | |
| 12 | September 2018 (start of Y13) | Chromebooks or BYOD | |
| 13 | Continue present optional BYOD | | |

Purchasing a Chromebook

One-off payment with optional insurance

OR

• Monthly payment, probably for 12, 24 or 36 months (for older year groups this will depend on how many years they have left until the end of Year 11 or 13).

How Much?

Still being negotiated and dependent on the model(s) we choose for April and September.

Indicative costs:

- Chromebook & 3-year warranty £200-£240 but may well vary
- Chromebook Management Licence (for connecting to our system)
- Optional Insurance for accidental damage & theft (3 yrs) to be confirmed We are also investigating insurance alternatives, including the merits of adding the Chromebook to household insurance.

Monthly payments: (eg) around £10 over 3 years, £15 over 2 years, £25 over 1 year, depending on insurance cost as well

Timescale for April 2018 (Years 7 & 8)

January Letter home to Y7/8 parents

Early Feb Info eve for parents

February Sales open

March Sales close to allow order to be

placed

16 April All Y7/8 collect Chromebooks

8H and 8M will have a slightly different letter in January as they are currently using AHS Chromebooks.

Timescale for September 2018 (current Years 6, 9, 10 and older)

May Letter home to parents

June Info eve for parents

June Sales open

July Sales close to allow

order to be placed

5 Sept All to collect

Chromebooks

I:I FAQs (i)

What is a Chromebook?

- A Chromebook runs an operating system called ChromeOS (rather than Windows or Apple's OS X).
- Chromebooks are made by a range of manufacturers.
- They are designed with the cloud in mind.
- There are thousands of apps and extensions available, many of them free.

Any drawbacks?

- Best when online; offline working is certainly possible with the GSuite apps but if you want apps that are online you need a connection.
- We use (and quite like) a number of Windows/MS Office apps so it's necessary to find online alternatives. We will be keeping our PCs in school for the foreseeable future as there are still a number of places where they are the best tool for the job.



Why Chromebooks?

- Very fast startup time (typically ~8-10 seconds).
- Excellent battery life (definitely fine for a day's use).
- Instant access to GSuite for Education (Gmail, Calendar, Google Drive, Google Classroom etc) and virtually unlimited cloud storage.
- Excellent for collaboration.
- The operating system and the GSuite apps are regularly updated without you noticing (and for free).
- Very resistant to viruses and Trojans.
- Purchase cost (and total cost of ownership as well) low compared with other devices.
- Convenient for school to manage large numbers.

Is the AHS infrastructure good enough?

The short answer is not yet!

- Our current wifi is not working as well as we want, and in some cases is getting in the way of teaching and learning, so it's a high priority for improvement.
- We are doubling the speed of our internet connection to 400MB/s in anticipation of higher demands on the system; at the moment 200MB/s is coping well.

Can they cope with school?

- Nothing's indestructible but we are buying ruggedized models which are hard to damage.
- If insurance is purchased then there is also reassurance about impacts, spills or theft.
- They are less vulnerable in some ways than phones.

1:1 FAQs (ii)

What do you use Chromebooks for, both in and out of lessons?

| Notetaking and extended writing | Research individually and collaboratively | Using Google Classroom | Email |
|---|--|--|---|
| Voice recognition for marking (and for dictating answers) | Apps such as Kahoot, Quizlet, Geogebra and Kaizena | Replacing the Student Planner by using Calendar | Online marking by teachers with easier feedback |
| Google Forms for data collection, and surveys/quizzes | Docs, Sheets, Slides etc for own use and class collaboration | Google Drive for access to files at home and in school | Screencasting |

What about e-safety?

AHS has an effective web filtering system which will stop students accessing inappropriate material when they are in school. We are alerted daily to any worrying searches made on our internet and intervene where necessary. Students are already taught about the importance of e-safety through ICT and L4L lessons, and this will continue to be reinforced. Parents are responsible for their own web controls at



Useful links

What is a Chromebook?

Digital tools for learning

Which model have you chosen?

- Our current pilot uses the ASUS
 C202 but before the April and
 September launches we will
 market test this model against
 what is available at the time.
- One benefit of Chromebooks is that they are less likely to go out of date or slow down compared with their PC equivalents.

How will the school help us learn to use Chromebooks?

- Many students are familiar with using Chromebooks anyway in lessons, and all students use GSuite just about every day.
- We will have hints and tips on a Chromebook section of the website, and will add to these as necessary.
- Before each launch we will have information evenings for parents.
- Staff are undertaking training and focusing on sharing effective practice with each other throughout the year.

I:I FAQs (iii)

Financial support

- Students who are currently entitled to Free School meals can purchase their Chromebook at a much-reduced cost.
- Other parents can apply for financial support through the school's on-line form "Request for Financial Assistance" in the same way as for trips.

What device qualifies as suitable for BYOD (Year 10 and older)?

- They need to be able to connect to our BYOD wifi.
- Phones and and probably iPads would not be suitable for extended writing tasks.

Is my work secure?

- The biggest security issues are students not looking after their passwords properly and the use of memory sticks.
- GSuite's habit of constantly saving work avoids losing it by accident.
- Google encrypt all data to international standards.

What if I don't want to buy a Chromebook for my daughter?

- There is no compulsion to purchase a Chromebook but we hope that parents and students will be sufficiently convinced of the benefits of owning a device that can be used both in school and at home that they do choose to buy one.
- Chromebooks can be purchased with one-off payments and monthly payments, whichever is most convenient for each family.
- Students who don't have a Chromebook will need to collect one from the Library each morning and return it each afternoon; those devices can't be taken home.

Why can't younger Years use BYOD?

- Apps and extensions are much easier to manage if everyone is using a school-purchased and licenced Chromebook.
- The battery life means Chromebooks can be used all day, laptops can't.
- Chromebooks are much more cost-effective than the alternatives.

Why can't I buy my own Chromebook?

- For at least the first year of this scheme, we have to make sure that our IT team are not spending time on a variety of devices, both for setting them up and diagnosing faults.
- For teachers with larger classes, they need a consistent approach in class so that the technology doesn't get in the way of learning.
- By bulk purchasing, we can get good value for money.

ICT@AHS in numbers



1.3 million emails in the last six months
295,817 emails in the last month

Record (16 Oct): 1,938 sent, 15,464 rec'd



@AylesburyHigh

@TeamAHS

Tweets Following Followers Likes 1,401 73 1,480 1,147

Tweets 3,171



148,940 files added in the last six months

31,077 files added in the last month

6,074,856 MB (6 TB) used

Typical day (25 Nov):
1,345 emails sent
1,270 uses of Google Drive
1,271 uses of Google Classroom

AHS now:

PCs ~340 Laptops ~160 iPads 32 Chromebooks 128 Users ~1500



30,000

homepage visits per month

ParentMail

8230 transactions in three months