



Dear parent/carer,

Chromebook Scheme

Our values and vision are clear. Our purpose is to educate and develop all young people, valuing them as individuals and setting incredibly high expectations both for academic success and personal development. A key part of this is our belief in digital learning and this is reflected in the fact that we are a '*One Person, One Device*' school. As such every student from Years 6 to 11 are required to have a Chromebook.

A Chromebook is the best selling device in education. As the curriculum has evolved, so has our way of working with technology. The benefits of Chromebooks are:

- Chromebooks are fully compatible with the Google Software we are constantly using within our Google Workspace platform
- Students use technology tools on our Google Workspace to communicate, collaborate, create and publish their work
- They work seamlessly with Google Apps for Education which all of our students and teachers already use extensively.
- They are ready to use within eight seconds so no learning lost
- They are lightweight and robust
- They are low maintenance. Chromebooks download and can install security and software updates automatically
- They are secure. Built-in security means devices are safe from viruses and malware
- They have a battery life of 8-11 hours and so only need charging overnight even when in constant use
- They allow real time feedback and marking
- Subject specific apps or online textbooks are easier to access
- They prepare students for 21st century integration of digital tools

Our belief in the power of digital learning is not only based in research but also in terms of the benefit we see day-to-day in school. Studies have shown that there is significant impact from 1:1 digital schemes; on average, the increased levels of progress linked to digital technology far outweighs the benefits of other educational approaches such as reduced class sizes and setting/streaming.

The devices will be a resource to complement existing learning materials and pedagogy, so writing in books will still be an important and daily part of the children's learning, and the skill of handwriting will not be lost. There are many examples of how they will be used in lessons across the curriculum, such as researching on the devices and then writing in books or using them to produce work in a digital format. We need students to be proficient at both sets of skills because as they continue their education journey into and through secondary school (including beyond in the form of university or many forms of employment), IT skills will become increasingly important. Students will not be able to bring in their own device. As a school we have a responsibility to our **Safeguarding Agenda**, and this is a priority. The Chromebooks will be managed by the school and Herts for Learning filtering service in order to ensure cyber security and e-safety. The Chromebooks will have robust filters that block restricted online material and these filters will work at home.

Please find enclosed FAQs around the Chromebook scheme and details of how to purchase a Chromebook as well as further information regarding the Chromebook package including detailed specifications and terms and conditions.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Lucy Owen
(Deputy Headteacher)