



Monday 22nd July 2019

Dear Parents,

Chromebook for Learning Project 2019-2020

We have recently informed the parents of our incoming Year 6 students about the process for buying into the successful Chromebook Project 2019. We are aware that you have previously chosen not to buy into the scheme but wanted to offer you the opportunity to do so along with our new intake. Currently, over 90% of Years 7 to 9 own their own Chromebook, which has opened up new learning opportunities in class, helped students organise their work and supported independent learning at home. Below is a summary of our main reasons for undertaking the project, which next year will incorporate all students in Years 7-10, and the key information needed to review your own involvement in the scheme.

Why has the School opted for Chromebooks?

Students need to be prepared for an increasingly digital world. Research has confirmed that appropriate home access to technology has a positive impact on a child’s educational achievements; it often motivates them to do school work by providing other interesting and engaging ways to learn. Research and other types of learning that do not require handwritten pieces are often better presented so their self-esteem grows and they can explore subjects that interest them in their own time.

What the price includes?

- Asus Chromebook C204MA (<https://www.asus.com/uk/Commercial-Laptops/ASUS-Chromebook-C204MA/>)
- Google Chrome License for managing applications
- 3 years accidental damage cover
- Three year extended warranty

How much is the scheme and what are the payment plans?

We have four different plans available, depending on whether your son or daughter will be in Year 8, 9 or 10 in September. The scheme is unfortunately not open to Year 11 students.

	PLAN 1 <i>(all years)</i>	PLAN 2 <i>(all years)</i>	PLAN 3 <i>(years 8 and 9)</i>	PLAN 4 <i>(For year 8 only)</i>
	Purchase Outright	12 Months	24 Months	36 Months
Initial Payment	£329.00	£70.00	£70.00	£70.00
Monthly Payments		£22.11	£12.17	£8.82
Date of Payment	On purchase	13th of the month from September	13th of the month from September	13th of the month from September

Outstanding education at the heart of the community

If you choose any of the monthly payment options, the initial deposit is £70.00, which ensures that your Chromebook is covered for accidental damage and can be repaired on site and in warranty. The first monthly payment will be taken in September after the Chromebooks have been issued to the students.

How do I register for the scheme?

Visit the [useful links](#) page of the school website, which can be found via the homepage and click on Chromebook for Learning Portal Year. (This web address can also be used to directly access the portal – <https://tarleton.parentportal.biz>) This will take you to a portal where you will be able to **register** with the code **TARL8-8**. Once you have registered, choose which of the payment options you would prefer and you will then be asked to give payment details.

What happens then?

The Portal will remain open until Saturday 17th August. The Chromebooks will be delivered into school the week commencing Monday 16th September and will then be issued to the students along with time allocated for your child to understand how the device works and what they can do with it.

What if my child already has a Chromebook?

With the agreement of the parents, students who own a **Chromebook** already will be able to bring it on to the Academy network as long as it has a battery life of at least 6 hours and when used within the Academy it will be in accordance to our acceptable use policy and safety guidance. We would need to install our management software in order to enable us to provide them with access to our network, web filters and content management. In return for access to a substantial package of apps that will be provided to students who are members of the scheme, there would be a one-off admin fee of £35 (£16 set up fee and £19 licensing). Please contact the school at the email address below to set up this option.

Parents must be aware that we will not be able to offer accidental damage cover and repairs for devices purchased outside of our scheme. It is strongly recommended that any personal Chromebooks are covered by your own household insurance.

What if I really want to join the scheme but I simply can't afford it. What can I do?

A fundamental principle of this scheme is that it is fair and inclusive. We want ALL pupils to benefit from the use of this technology, regardless of financial circumstances. If you are in this position, please contact the school to discuss this further.

What if I don't want to take part in the scheme?

We want our scheme to be reasonable and inclusive, and would encourage all families to take part if possible. However, it is your right to continue not to do so. If you continue to opt out, your child will not be provided with their own device. The school will continue to have a system in place to allow them access to a Chromebook or Google Chrome applications when it is necessary for learning activities, although this will have limitations given it will not be their own device. The loan device will also not be allowed to be taken home.

If you have any queries about the Chromebook for Learning Project that cannot be answered by our FAQ document, previously sent out and on the school website, please contact me via the school office or by email on t.mclardy@tarletonacademy.org.

Kind regards,

T McLardy

Mr T McLardy

Assistant Headteacher