

Chromebook FAQ's

Q. Why does the school want to use Chromebooks?

Using Chromebooks and the School's Google Drive affords a very high level of security to support safeguarding both on and off School grounds. This will give students and parents added confidence in the use of these devices. All Google Drive files and emails are 'owned' by the School and as such, can be retrieved at will for investigations etc, for the duration of the student's time here.

The use of devices will be supported by the already successful e-security education programme received by students through PSHCE.

Q. Will the Chromebook last for the duration of my child's education at The Buckingham School?

Yes, the Chromebook models we recommend will last for at least 7 years. This should be more than enough to support students' learning until they reach Sixth Form.

Q. I have more than one child in the School, do they all need a device?

Yes. The Chromebooks will be used frequently throughout the School day, so individual devices will be required.

Q I have already purchased a Chromebook. What do I need to do?

We are very aware that parents may have already purchased Chromebooks to support their child's learning. Where this is the case, you will only need to purchase the licence (link to licence page) in order that your child can access the learning packages available to them. Please be aware that only the use of a Chromebook will be acceptable. A Laptop, iPad/Tablet or other Windows device will not be permitted in School.

Q Do I have to purchase a Chromebook Licence?:

Yes. The Chromebook licence will allow the device to be registered on our School network and then protects the device through enhanced security features, support from our IT Team and access to the numerous online learning platforms we use in School, such as Seneca Learning.

Q Does my child have to have a device?:

We are currently running the scheme with the majority of our current Year 8 and 9 students participating. The impact of this change has been hugely positive and resulted in a dramatic shift in how we teach and support our students. We look forward to developing blended learning further as the scheme continues.

The previous lockdowns, particularly having to switch to remote learning at a moments' notice, has shown how essential technology has become in our everyday lives. And a clear need to tackle the Digital Divide and support all students in having access to technology.

We cannot provide a device for all learners at all times, therefore, this is the solution that schools nationally are adopting. There will be a bank of devices available for students to hire if they do not have their own device (but this will be limited). Students will be required to collect and return their hired device at the start and end of the day and they will not be permitted to take the device home.

The aim of this Chromebook Scheme is to provide students with a device which they can use in School and at home for Extended or Remote Learning that they take full responsibility for. We strongly encourage all parents to support the School in providing a device for their child.