

12 July 2020



Dear Parents,

Tadcaster Grammar School – Chromebooks for Learning Scheme

I am writing with the launch details for our *Chromebook for Learning* scheme: **Please note the dates for ordering a device below, and be aware of the deadline for indicating your interest.**

What is a Chromebook?

A Chromebook is a kind of laptop computer, running Google Chrome as its operating system. The device is used primarily while connected to the Internet, with most applications and data residing in "the cloud". Chromebooks differ from a normal laptop in that a robust 'device management system' allows for strict monitoring of use, internet filtering and other vital e-Safety restrictions whilst in school.

Why have we introduced the Chromebooks for Learning scheme?

The school launched this initiative two years ago. Students currently in Year 7 and Year 8 are using chromebooks on a regular basis in lessons, and also benefit from the devices to complete some of their homework. They have proven to be invaluable as an aid to remote learning over the last few months, and staff have been able to set regular online work, safe in the knowledge that students have access to the technology they require to access it.

The use of chromebooks does not replace, but supplements our existing learning strategies. Importantly chromebooks give students seamless access to Google Apps for Education, (G-Suite) which are being used increasingly across the school to enhance the learning experience. 'Google Classroom' in particular is an extremely powerful application, which offers collaborative and interactive educational activities, effective online feedback and improved communication between teacher, student and even parent. All of our teaching staff have received training in the use of the Google education environment, and we also have members of staff who act as 'Google Leaders', some of whom have gained accredited 'Google Educator' certification. They work across the curriculum to ensure effective use of G-Suite and the Chromebooks, by providing further training and guidance to both staff and students.

Do students have to take part in the Chromebooks for Learning scheme?

Although we hope families will take up this opportunity ***there is no obligation on parents to contribute to the scheme, as it is entirely voluntary.*** Students who do not have their own device will be able to borrow a chromebook when required, but will need to collect and return it to our ICT support team before and after use. We must stress, however, that without your support we will be unable to fully and effectively deliver this initiative.



What are the next steps?

We are offering families the opportunity to purchase a device outright, or for a reasonable and competitive monthly direct debit payment, which will be significantly cheaper than the equivalent available on the high street. At the end of the payment period, the chromebook will be yours to keep. Please see the attached information sheet.

Ordering your chromebook

The online portal, where you can order a device from our partner 'Freedomtech Technology' will open on **15th July** and close on **10th September**. The first Direct Debit will be taken on: **25th September** and we will expect delivery of the chromebooks early in October.

What is included?

You will receive:

- a 11" Lenovo 300e **touchscreen** chromebook
- a Google education licence which allows the device to be safely managed whilst in school
- education specific three year **accidental damage insurance**
- a full **three year warranty**, offering immediate replacement whilst repairs are undertaken, or a permanent replacement is being processed
- software and full on-site support whilst your child remains a student at Tadcaster Grammar School.

Can I provide my own chromebook?

You can, if you wish, purchase a chromebook elsewhere for your child to use in school. It must meet the same specification as the devices offered by the scheme, and you will also need to order a 'Google education licence' through the school to allow it to benefit from the applications and device management we offer. This is a one-off cost of £20.00.

Please visit the *Chromebooks for Learning* page on the school website under the 'Parents' tab ([Click here](#)) which contains further information regarding the scheme. It also includes answers to frequently asked questions.

We would normally hold an information evening about the scheme in the summer term, designed to provide you with a better understanding of the initiative and how and when the "rollout" to the students will take place. Unfortunately we are unable to do so at present, but if you have any concerns or questions not addressed by the attached information sheet or web page, please contact chromebooks@tgs.starmat.uk.

Mr M Dunphy
Assistant Headteacher.



Having access to the latest technology when and where they need it, gives students the very best chance of success in and beyond the classroom. But for parents and carers, making that investment can be a struggle and the equipment they choose may not always be in line with the School's existing systems and infrastructure.

Lenovo

300e Chromebook

Our recommended device for KS3 students is the 360° touchscreen [Lenovo 300e](#)

It's a robust and rugged chromebook designed for use in education. Built to withstand everyday classroom knocks, bumps, drops and spills without damage. The extensively tested, impact-resistant body stands up to daily wear and tear.

It also boasts rubber bumpers, reinforced ports and hinges, and secure mechanically anchored keys. With its school day-long battery life, students can be guaranteed continuous and uninterrupted learning without worry.



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How The Device Is Funded

Parents and carers commit to fixed monthly payments, and can spread the cost with no personal credit check required.

- Full 3yr breakdown warranty
- Fully insured for accidental damage
- Google education licence
- The device is yours at the end of the payment term

How to order

Visit our partner's online ordering portal, or contact the school for more information. Please note that orders must be placed within this timeframe.

Key dates

Portal opens	15.07.20
Portal closes	10.09.20
First direct debit	25.09.20

How Technology Supports Students' Learning.

Chromebooks do not replace, but supplement our existing learning strategies. They give students access to Google Apps for Education which greatly enhance the learning experience. 'Google Classroom' in particular offers exciting collaborative and interactive educational activities, effective online feedback and improved communication between teacher, student and parent.

Costs

Cash option	£368.61
36 months	£12.60 / month
24 months	£17.66 / month
12 months	£32.85 / month

All options include 3 year warranty in case of any technical problems, and insurance covering accidental damage.

Terms available with no credit check required

www.tech4learners.co.uk



Chromebooks for Learning Scheme

Lenovo 300e



Thanks to its durable 360-degree hinge, the 300e 2-in-1 chromebook can be used in multiple modes depending on the learning environment. Use it in Tablet mode to mark up documents. Laptop mode is great for writing essays. And Stand and Tent modes help focus students' concentration.

Create, share, collaborate using Google Apps for Education • Organise homework and classwork through Google Classroom • Use digital tools to support research and writing • effective online teacher feedback • Think and behave creatively across all subjects using cloud apps for exploring, designing and planning • Access schoolwork and resources anywhere and any time

Ordering portal details

www.tech4learners.co.uk

Username: **Y7Tad2020**

Password: **S3cure02!**

FAQs

How long can I spread the payments over?

Pay in full, or in installments over a period of months depending on your preference.

What happens at the end of the agreement?

On your final payment the device becomes yours.

Will there be any credit checks?

No everyone is approved and there are no credit checks.

What is the excess on the insurance policy?

There is no excess on either the accidental damage insurance or warranty and you will receive the policy details with your device.

How do I make an insurance or warranty claim?

You will be provided with a policy and claims document detailing how to make a warranty or insurance claim.

Can students use the device at home?

Yes. Students can use it as their own personal device at home. There will be some safeguarding restrictions applied. Please ask for more information.

How many devices can I order?

One per student on roll at the School.

When will I receive the device?

The ordering window will open on **Wednesday 15.07.20** and orders need to be placed by **Thursday 10.09.20**. If you choose to pay in installments, your first direct debit will be collected on **25.09.20**. The devices will be delivered to school early in October, and handed out to students directly.

What happens if I miss a payment or can no longer afford the device?

You will have to return the device; you will not own the device until the final payment is made.

What if my child leaves the School?

You must return the device to the School or alternatively pay the outstanding payments to take ownership of the device.

Full terms and conditions are available on the parent portal :

www.tech4learners.co.uk