



Thursday 21st December, 2017

Dear Parents,

Chromebook Project Update

We have now resolved the supplier issues and took the final delivery of the order as we hoped last week. We have distributed the Chromebooks to all Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 students that have opted into the scheme. We really hope that the students are finding the Chromebooks a fantastic learning resource and we are looking forward to further developing their use within lessons in the New Year and beyond.

As previously stated in the letter sent out at the end of November (Social Media, Attendance Policy and Chromebook Security) we have been asked a few questions regarding the security settings on the Chromebooks. In the first instance the 'Acceptable Use Policy' (AUP), which was accepted by parents to be part of the project, stated there would need to be settings installed in order to protect the school's security. However, despite this we have reviewed two key areas of the security settings and I would like to explain the outcomes of the review.

Setting up additional users:

Unfortunately, it is not possible to allow the creation of additional users as we have a commitment to safeguarding all our students and allowing non-Tarleton accounts will compromise the security of the students and the school's network. A few of our main concerns are listed below:

- Additional accounts would not be able to be monitored in class
- It would create an inability to enforce 'safe browsing'
- We would be unable to prevent students proceeding to malicious sites that have been flagged by Google.
- An additional account could bypass Google Safe Search

Unfortunately, it is not possible to create an account that can only be used at home and is disabled in school.

Downloading Apps:

We will now be creating a 'white list' for apps that students with Chromebooks will be able to decide which of these apps they would like or will need to download to support their studies. Students and parents can suggest apps to be 'white-listed' by contacting the school through

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the email chromebook@tarletonacademy.org. We will then review and decide which would apps will be 'white listed' for use by students.

There have also been a few queries regarding setting up printers for the Chromebooks. In order to support parents we will be adding a section on our school website which will offer guidance.

Please be assured that the controls in place are to ensure that the integrity of the school computer network, the online safety of our students and the learning experience are not compromised. We will review these settings on a regular basis.

Finally, we would like to thank those parents that have contacted us to support us in our stance that the Chromebooks are an educational resource and have welcomed the robust security measures.

If you have any further questions or queries regarding Chromebooks please do not hesitate to contact us at school through the email above.

Yours sincerely,



Mr M Cunniffe
Head of School

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