



Thursday 26th September 2019

Dear Parents,

Chromebook Scheme: An Update

As many of you will be aware, we have now inducted our Year 7 students into the Chromebooks for Learning scheme. This means that students whose families are buying a Chromebook through the school have taken receipt of the device, and that those who intend to loan one from the school each day or supply their own Chromebook have been familiarised with those respective procedures.

You can expect your child to begin using the devices, where appropriate, to aid their learning. Whilst they will be excited to use the devices, students must understand that this does not mean that they will be utilised in every lesson.

As students begin working in this new way, it seems prudent to remind parents of some of the key features of the scheme and the expectations upon the students. Firstly, I would like to remind parents that, as part of the price paid, we have included cover for accidental damage. Should a device be broken in such a way that it affects the functionality, we will repair it at no cost to yourselves. General wear and tear to the device is expected and will not be repaired under this scheme. Along with the repair service comes the expectation that students look after the devices in a way which we deem appropriate. Repairs for inappropriate use may be chargeable.

The [ASUS C204](#) is described as follows:

Ultimate rugged design

ASUS Chromebook C204 is built to withstand everyday classroom knocks, bumps, drops and spills without damage. Whether it is dropped from a desk or the dinner table the C204 is built like a tank and will keep on going.

Rubber bumper

Spill-resistant

Easy to grip

Tamper-resistant

Anti-scratch

As such, we have opted to keep the cost to parents as low as possible and not supply a carry case. We have used a similar device in previous years and found this to be adequate. However, you know your young people best and, if you think it necessary for your son or daughter, you might like to consider purchasing a cheap case or sleeve for them. The device is 11.6" and there are a number of suitable options available from [various retailers](#).

If you have opted to supply your own Chromebook, we will be unable to carry out repairs to this device, so please consider listing it on your household insurance policy.

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We would also recommend that students have a pair of earphones so that they can benefit from the use of audio in a classroom environment but ask that parents do not allow students to bring expensive or 'designer' headphones into school. We will be unable to take any responsibility for loss or damage to these items.

Most importantly, students should see Chromebooks as another item of equipment that is required in the classroom. Just as students are given behaviour points for not arriving at lessons with a pen or pencil, they will be given behaviour points for not having a charged Chromebook. The battery life is in excess of 10 hours and should easily last the school day providing that it is plugged in each night.

I hope that students start to see the significant benefits of having these devices in the coming weeks, and that the devices are fulfilling students' and parents' expectations. If there are any issues that develop over the next few days, please be reassured that all devices are covered by the manufacturer's warranty. Any queries can be directed to myself by email: t.mclardy@tarletonacademy.org, or students can visit Mr Marsh in person with their device.

Yours faithfully,

Mr T McLardy

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Assistant Headteacher - Curriculum and Assessment

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