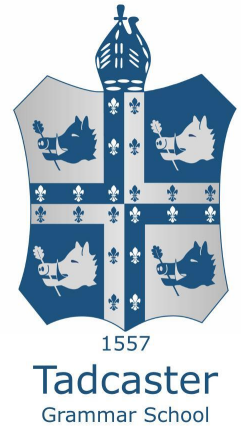


# Be Your Best Self

May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

## Tadcaster Grammar School – Chromebooks for Learning Scheme



I am writing with information relating to our *Chromebook for Learning* scheme:

### 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 use of chromebooks does not replace, but supplements our existing learning strategies. As a school we have moved away from the use of 'ICT suites', and Chromebooks give students seamless access to the internet and to Google applications, 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.

### What are the next steps?

We will be 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. (Please bear in mind that high street prices will *not* include an extended repair service or warranty beyond 12 months, which would need to be added to any competitive price). At the end of the payment period, the chromebook will be yours to keep. After the 30 month warranty and payment period has expired, when students are in Year 9 and making their options for Key Stage 4, parents can choose to continue making monthly payments and take out a further 30 month agreement. At this point they will receive a new chromebook which will see the students through until the end of Year 11.

### 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 participate in 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.



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## Ordering your chromebook

The online portal, where you can order a device from our partner 'Freedomtech Technology' will open on **Monday 15th May** and close on **Monday 10th July**. The first Direct Debit will be taken on: **25<sup>th</sup> July** and we will expect delivery of the chromebooks at the start of the school year.

to order visit <https://www.tech4learners.co.uk/users/login> using the following credentials:

**Username: Tadcaster23**

**Password: S3cure02!**

## What is included?

You will receive:

- 11.6" Lenovo 300e touchscreen chromebook (3rd Generation)
- a Google education licence which allows the device to be safely managed whilst in school
- a cost free **repair service (30 months)** to cover accidental damage
- a **30 months extended 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
- A protective carry case for the device, and stylus

## What is the cost?

- Cash - £418.03
- 12 Months - £36.58
- 24 Months - £19.25
- 30 Months - £15.99

## 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 £30.00. (see website for more details)

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.

If you have any concerns or questions not addressed by the attached information sheet or web page, please contact [chromebooks@tgs.starmat.uk](mailto:chromebooks@tgs.starmat.uk).

**Mr M Dunphy**

Assistant Headteacher.