

Lymm High School Chromebook Programme

LHS'S CHROMEBOOK PROGRAMME

The last few weeks have already shown how much easier learning from home is when students have the right technology. Whilst none of us know what the situation is going to be in September, it does seem possible that remote learning could continue well into the next academic year. We therefore want to do all we can to help children have access to affordable, suitable devices as soon as possible.

In the longer term, depending on how many of next year's Year 7 students have a suitable device by the time we are all back in school, then we may even move to a model whereby most lessons involve students using them. However, even if we can't, Chromebooks will still help students when it comes to home learning during their time at LHS.

THE EQUIPMENT ON OFFER

Following consultation with other schools who already use different kinds of devices, we have selected two Chromebooks which are best suited to students at Lymm High School.

These Chromebooks are specifically designed for student use with a ruggedised outer casing and enhanced specification to ensure that they withstand all functional requirements.

Each device is also supplied with a 3-year extended warranty and 3-year protection for accidental damage and theft with £0 excess, giving complete peace of mind.

WHY CHROMEBOOKS?

Chromebooks are extremely easy to use and facilitate both independent study and online collaboration whilst also offering high levels of security and eSafety. Through the use of Google Apps for Education & Office 365 we can further improve student engagement, and open the door to learning.

The Chromebooks with their management console ensure that all students are able to access the same resources and applications, wherever they are in the world and enable teachers to deliver the curriculum in the most exciting, engaging and effective way.

THE BENEFITS OF CHROMEBOOKS

- Less than 8 seconds to boot up
- Long battery life
- Unlimited file storage
- Simple technology that will just work
- Easy student-teacher workflow in a safe environment
- Excellent collaboration tools
- Works seamlessly with Google & Office 365
- Affordable monthly payments

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Chromebook – Ruggedised and designed for students
- Chrome Management License
- 3 Yr Extended Warranty
- 3 Yr Accidental Damage Protection - £0 excess
- 3 Yr Theft Protection - £0 excess
- Google Classroom & Apps for Education

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Prices start from £11 per month over 36 months including all of the items above. Other payment terms are available.

Parents / Carers can opt to pay via monthly direct debit up to 36 months or a one off payment through the online ordering portal.

There are no credit checks and it is open to all students.

Please note: financial support is available from school for families who are struggling to find the money at the moment.

HOW DO I PLACE MY ORDER?

You **MUST** select the year group that your son or daughter is currently in for your order to be processed.

For example:

My son is currently in Y6 and will be in Y7 from September, place your order using Year 6 as the year group in the portal.

My daughter is currently in Y11 and will be Y12 from September, place your order using Year 11 as the year group in the portal.

To place your order follow the login details below:

Go to: www.tech4learners.co.uk

Username: LYMM20

Password: S3cure02!

THE PORTAL OPENS ON THE 01st JULY 2020

THE PORTAL CLOSES ON THE 12th JULY 2020

FIRST DIRECT DEBIT ON THE 25th JULY 2020

If your first Direct Debit fails your order will be cancelled

Delivery is planned for the start of September for handout at school

Available from **£11.00 per month**

Log onto www.tech4learners.co.uk and place your order from **01st July to 12th July**

Username: LYMM20

Password: S3cure02!

If you require assistance or have any questions then please email tech4learners@freedomtech.co.uk or call 0203 857 5632

Lenovo 100e (non-touch) Chromebook 2nd Generation



From £11.00 per month
Other payment terms are available

Price Includes:

- 3Yr Extended warranty
- 3Yr Accidental Damage Protection (£0 Excess)
- 3Yr Theft Protection (£0 Excess)
- Ownership at end – no additional cost
- School Software, Applications, Network Access
- Chrome Management Console

Specification:

- AMD A4-9120C Processor
- 11.6" AntiGlare HD Non-Touch Display
- 4GB Memory
- 32GB SSD
- Dual Band Wireless-AC & Bluetooth 4.2
- Rugged Design

SAVE up to £109.73

(Based on outright purchase vs High Street RRP)

High Street RRP = £435.39

- Chromebook @ £243.76
- Warranty @ £35.99
- Chrome License @ £30.00
- 3YR ADT insurance @ £125.64
- (Protectmybubble £3.49 p/mth)

Lenovo 300e Flip & Touch Chromebook 2nd Generation



From £12.75 per month
Other payment terms are available

Price Includes:

- 3Yr Extended Warranty
- 3Yr Accidental Damage Protection (£0 Excess)
- 3Yr Theft Protection (£0 Excess)
- Ownership at end – no additional cost
- School Software, Applications, Network Access
- Chrome Management Console

Specification

- AMD A4-9120C Processor
- 11.6" HD Touchscreen Display
- 4GB DDR3 Memory
- 32GB SSD
- Dual Band Wireless-AC & Bluetooth 4.2
- Rugged & Flip Design (**Turns into a Tablet**)

SAVE up to £120.01

(Based on outright purchase vs High Street RRP)

High Street RRP = £481.76

- Chromebook @ £290.13
- Warranty @ £35.99
- Chrome License @ £30.00
- 3YR ADT insurance @ £125.64
- (Protectmybubble £3.49 p/mth)

Frequently Asked Questions

How long can I spread the payments over?

12, 24 or 36 months depending on how long your child has left at the school. You can also make a single up-front payment if you prefer not to spread the cost.

Is there any financial assistance available?

Yes. For children entitled to free school meals, we will lend you a Chromebook that you will be able to treat as your own – please contact Miss Dixon if your child does not have a suitable device. We also have a hardship fund to support other families who might struggle to afford the payments at this time; please also contact Miss Dixon if this applies to you (ndixon@lymmhigh.org.uk). ***It is really important to us that no child misses out on having a Chromebook for financial reasons so please do not be worried about asking for support.***

What happens at the end of the agreement?

On your final payment the device becomes yours. If paying upfront, then the Chromebook is yours from day one.

Will there be any credit checks?

No everyone is approved and there are no credit checks.

What is the excess on claims?

There is no excess on the accidental damage, theft or warranty protection. This is a huge benefit of the programme.

How do I claim for warranty, accidental damage or theft?

You will be provided with policy documentation detailing how to make a claim. A courier will arrange delivery of a replacement device from spare stock held within our Service Centre. This will be a direct replacement of the Chromebook that you originally ordered and will be issued within 48 hours.

Can students use the device at home?

Yes, the student can use the device to further enhance their learning and we recommend that you set your security setting on your Wi-Fi accordingly.

When will I receive the device?

The ordering window will open on the 1st July and orders need to be placed by the 12th July Your first direct debit will be collected on the 25th July. Devices will be delivered to school for collection at the start of September.

What happens if I miss a payment, can no longer afford the device or 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. You will not own the device until the final payment is made.

Are Chromebooks secure?

Yes. Chromebooks are designed with multiple layers of security to keep them safe from viruses and malware without any additional security software. A full 10% of boot time is dedicated to re-verifying that the device has not been tampered with, so every time you power on a Chromebook, your security is checked. Google also adheres to all data policies including GDPR and does not share data with any third parties.

Will Chromebooks be used in every lesson when lockdown is eased/lifted?

We cannot give a definite answer to this question yet because we cannot be sure how many families will take part in this programme. At the moment, the priority is to ensure that all students can learn effectively while schools are closed and having a Chromebook will make this much easier. We think that it will be worth getting one for this reason alone, and this is why we are launching the programme now. However, we do not recommend buying one right now if your child already has a suitable device for home learning.

If the vast majority of families choose to buy one, then we will start using Chromebooks in many (perhaps even most) lessons when back in school. Having access to the educational apps, resources and interaction that Chromebooks allow would really help make the difference for our students in many lessons.

Either way, we suggest the Chromebook would remain worth the money – apart from anything else, they will be extremely useful for homework and revision in the future.

Would I be able to bring a different device of my own into school if Chromebooks are used in lessons?

No. We had initially considered this for older year groups, and it remains a possibility in some circumstances for them given that so many already have their own laptops. However, this would be far from ideal. In particular, there would be problems relating to security / insurance with students' own devices (problems that we would not have with the Chromebooks) and we would also risk undue pressure on parents by children to spend more and more money on the latest/most expensive/'coolest' devices.

If we do end up moving to a model where laptops are used routinely in lessons for children currently in Year 6, then it would be one where everybody uses a Chromebook from our scheme. In the longer-term, this would be a far more preferable model and it would make sense to phase it in, starting with the year groups that are new to the school.

As mentioned above though, we have not yet made a decision on using Chromebooks in lessons and do not expect (or want) families to buy one just for this reason at this stage – especially if your child already has a laptop or equivalent for home learning.

What happens if I don't buy a Chromebook or have a laptop when we return to school?

This will depend on how many children have a suitable device by the time we return. If, as we expect, the vast majority do, then we will have a small supply of spares for those who do not have one. These spares will be handed out on a lesson-by-lesson basis and students will not be able to take them home. However, it will make things a lot more efficient if everybody does have a Chromebook. Please remember that financial assistance is available if you really need it; we do not want anybody missing out purely because of the financial aspect.

Additional Frequently Asked Questions

Does my child need a laptop of some kind for secondary school?

It is not usually essential, though it is very helpful for homework – and, as more and more online resources and apps become available, this is becoming more so.

On the other hand, were it not for the Covid-19 situation, we would probably not have launched the Chromebook scheme just now – the driving force has certainly been to help families get access to affordable devices while so much remote learning is going on. At the time of writing, we still have no idea what the situation is going to be in September but we are preparing for the possibility that students are not in school full-time and that therefore a good deal of remote learning will still be necessary.

If you do want to buy a new device for your child as they move up to secondary school, it probably does make sense to use our programme to buy the Chromebook. If, however, you still choose to buy something else that will be used for schoolwork, we strongly recommend it has:

- A minimum screen size of 11” and a proper keyboard to type on
- An up-to-date virus application (for Windows devices)
- Good warranty and accidental damage/theft policies. With the best will in the world, students will drop or damage devices from time to time! One of the most attractive features of the LHS Chromebook programme is the 3-year warranty and **£0 excess on claims for accidental damage or theft.**

Do the Chromebooks come with a sleeve or bump-case?

No, they don't, but they are specifically designed for education and student use. The Lenovo 100e and 300e are engineered for durability, with rubber bumpers, reinforced ports and hinges, and mechanically anchored keys. It's even drop-resistant up to 29.5 inches (75cm), roughly the height of a school desk. Parents/carers are welcome to buy a case separately if they wish to but they are designed to fit straight into a school bag.

Will there be future windows available to sign up for Chromebooks?

Yes. There will likely be an opportunity in September and possibly others at later dates. Please just bear in mind that the deadline for orders in each round usually comes in the middle of the month and devices are not delivered for a few weeks after that.

If there are future opportunities available to sign up for Chromebooks, will the cost and terms & conditions remain the same?

It is extremely unlikely that the cost will differ by anything more than a small amount, but this will be dictated by any changes in manufacturing costs and we can't guarantee that the price won't change. The terms and conditions will remain the same.

I don't have wifi at home (or intermittent wifi) – if I was to buy a dongle or SIM card at a later date to use with the Chromebook, would it work?

Both models will work with a USB Dongle or tethering device (such as a 'hotspot') but do not have a SIM card slot. It is possible to work offline on the Chromebooks but quite a lot is reliant upon being online, so please consider this before signing up.

On the Freedom Tech website, the flip and touch model says it has the following ports: USB 3.0, HDMI and headphone/microphone combo jack – is this the same for the non-touch model?

Yes, both models have the same ports.

Does the software on the Chromebooks differ according to a child's year group?

No it doesn't, although the Chromebooks benefit from similar security protections as those in school so age-restrictions may still apply on certain sites or applications that will be applied by the school.

Is there any limit on the number of claims per child or Chromebook?

Whilst there is no cap on the number of claims, we would expect students and parents to look after them. If a pattern of claims develops, Freedom Tech will flag this up to school for us to discuss with you and your child. In these cases, we may ask that the Chromebook be kept in school for your child to use rather than being taken home. There is a £0 excess on all claims for Warranty, Accidental Damage and Theft.

Who should I contact at school if I have any questions?

Miss Dixon (Assistant Headteacher) is the best person to start with. She will do her best to answer queries as soon as possible.