



CRANBOURNE WEST
SECONDARY COLLEGE

1-1 CHROMEBOOK PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a Chromebook?

A Chromebook is a laptop that you use primarily when you are online. Chromebooks run Chrome OS, a fast, stripped-back, Linux-based operating system which revolves mainly around the Chrome browser. Apps can be used on Chromebooks, similar to how you would use apps on your iPhone or android phone.

Why Chromebooks?

Chromebooks are a price competitive, reliable, fast loading computer that has: a long battery life, is light for students to carry to and from College and boot and resume almost instantly when moving from class to class. Chromebooks integrate seamlessly with Google Classroom allowing for a single sign on for all student work and classroom activity. Chromebooks provide the teaching and learning benefits of computers without the typical distractions that come with technology in the classroom.

How do I order my Chromebook?

Information regarding College-approved suppliers and up to date pricing is provided to families at the time of enrolment.

Will my child be required to take the laptop to College each day?

Your child will be required to take the Chromebook to College each day. The laptop will assist students to participate in class activities and complete classwork and revision tasks. **It is expected that students will recharge their laptop overnight, ready for a full day's use at College.** We ask all parents to ensure the laptop is used responsibly at home.

Why do we need Chromebooks? Can I use an existing notebook/tablet, or purchase a different device for my child?

The College expects all students to purchase the chromebook through the College Chromebook program. We have undertaken extensive research and chosen a device that is reliable, has proven long battery life, cost effective and super fast to boot and run web applications. It is ideal for use in a College environment. Moreover, the Teaching and Learning Program has been designed with Chromebook and Google Suite functionality in mind and it plays a vital role in delivering an effective and engaging curriculum.

The Chromebooks are preconfigured to connect to the College's wireless network, printing system and College domain. We manage all warranty repairs onsite. With over 450 students in 2022, it is not practical for the College to manually configure and support students bringing a different device.

We have also found Chromebooks to be very fast for students to use in the classroom, particularly in comparison to Macbooks and Windows laptops. This maximises effective learning time at school and minimising downtime.

What computer skills will be taught and when?

Students will use their Chromebook each day to support their learning. They will be trained in the appropriate computer skills as required. This learning will begin in the Digital Technologies classes. Students will study topics such as online safety, privacy, the importance of managing passwords and file management. Our students are the greatest beneficiaries of the digital era. They are learning to navigate the online world at a young age. We will be an eSmart accredited College, we aim to teach children, and the whole community, how to benefit from online technology whilst being savvy and prepared for the pitfalls - cyber bullying, scams, fraud, exposure to predators and inappropriate content. Our aim is to create a College community where everyone is smart, safe and responsible online.

Do we need to purchase any software for the Chromebook?

The Chromebook uses the Chrome operating system which comes preloaded with software that is required for College use, as well as having the ability to apply updates added when required. No additional purchasing of software is required.

What would be the outcome if I did not participate in the Chromebook program?

The Chromebook program is an essential tool for learning at Cranbourne West Secondary College. If you choose not to provide your child with a Chromebook, your child will be unable to participate in a large part of the learning activities in the way the teacher intended. Alternative activities may need to be provided, as the use of the Chromebook will be integrated within a wide range of teaching and learning activities. Please contact the College if there are financial difficulties.

What happens if the Chromebook is damaged?

The Chromebooks are covered by the manufacturer's warranty. Any defects or damage that occurs in the normal use of the device will be covered by this warranty. Whilst devices are being repaired, a loaned Chromebook will be made available to the student (depending upon the availability of such devices at the time). Damage due to accidental, negligence or malicious behaviour is not covered by the manufacturer's warranty. In any instance where a student loses or damages a Chromebook due to negligent or malicious behaviour, the student's family will be expected to cover the costs of repair or replacement. The College will endeavour to ensure the repair costs are kept as low as possible. The maximum charge will not exceed the cost of the device. There is optional accidental protection insurance that families can purchase from the suppliers portals.

When do I get my Chromebook?

All orders placed by the recommended date will be available for collection from the College Tuesday 25th January 2022.

Daily Classroom Use

Will my child use their Chromebook in every lesson?

Chromebooks will be integrated within a wide range of teaching and learning activities - our teachers will determine when students should use their devices. Students must, however, bring their device every day (unless explicitly instructed otherwise), as our curriculum is specifically tailored around the Chromebook capabilities and integration into the College network and services.

Will students and teachers have email accounts?

As a component of the Google environment, students and teachers can access and communicate with each other. The College will instruct students regarding the safe use of email as part of the digital technologies curriculum.

Can students take it into the yard at lunchtime?

Students are to store their Chromebook safely in their locker while not in class.

How will students charge their Chromebook if batteries run low in class?

It is expected that students will recharge their Chromebook overnight, ready for a full day's use at College. These devices have a battery life of up to 10 hours - ample time to use in class all day if fully charged. A limited supply of charging stations will be available at College. The College will not allow students to plug their own charger into classroom power or around the campus as leads can cause tripping hazards.

Are your teachers trained in how to use technology?

Cranbourne West has employed staff that have had vast experience using the Google suite and teaching with Chromebooks. Along with this, our ICT program provides regular training and professional development opportunities for staff.

Do students have unrestricted access to the internet while at College?

The College internet connection is filtered, to limit student access to inappropriate content. Safe and responsible internet use is a major focus at Cranbourne West, and consequences are imposed for those who seek out inappropriate material online.

Will my child be able to play games at College?

The Chromebook will be used for educational purposes. Educational Games will only be permitted in specific circumstances.

Are students able to personalise or mark the Chromebook? How will teachers be able to tell the Chromebooks apart?

All Chromebooks come with a tech skin printed with the College logo with the students name. Graffiti, personal marking or stickers are not permitted.