



THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL

A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE

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15 July 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Chromebooks

It is with regret that I must write and inform you that we have taken the decision to postpone the roll-out of our Chromebook programme for our new Year 7 students. This is not a decision which we have taken lightly, but we feel that it is the right and proper action to take to safeguard the overall wellbeing of our community.

We are acutely aware of the impact that Covid-19 has had on a number of families in our community; not just from the point of their emotional and physical health, but also their finances. We feel very strongly that we should be careful about additional financial burdens to our families at, what is already, a very difficult time.

Similarly, School finances have been impacted by this pandemic, with significant and unforeseen expenditure needing to be made, to ensure compliance with new guidance, in addition to loss of income. Yet further, we have had to adapt our whole school day from September, and feel that a significant initiative like this one cannot be effectively deployed at this time, on top of so many other changes.

This doesn't mean that we are turning our backs on this project. We fully embrace the programme and are committed to equipping our students with all the tools they need to flourish in this digital age.

We, therefore, propose to review the roll-out of the programme early in 2021, when we hope that all things will be a lot more certain and settled. Whilst we continue to believe that the Lenovo 300e Chromebook 2nd GenA4-9120C, 4GB, 32GB eMMC, 11.6" HD IPS, Integrated Radeon R4 Graphics, Chrome OS (82CE0001UK) is the most suitable device for educational settings, we will not be able to allow your child to use it in school until the eventual launch. Equally, we cannot take responsibility if, by any launch, a different Chromebook has become our recommendation.

I sincerely hope that this news does not cause too much disappointment or inconvenience and hope that you can appreciate that our decision comes wholly from a wish to be understanding of what our community is facing.

As we get in to the new calendar year, we will be in touch again with an update on the programme and hopeful for the opportunity for a twilight parental meeting.

My thanks for your understanding.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Osborne
Assistant Headteacher and Director of IT
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The Buckingham School is concerned that every student should have the opportunity to attend school activities/obtain equipment, regardless of their financial circumstances. As such, it may be possible to subsidise those students who would otherwise be unable to attend trips/purchase items. Please feel free to write in confidence to Mrs K Bones at kbones@buckinghamschool.org, if you wish to seek assistance, or obtain more information about Pupil Premium funding.

