



Chromebooks For All - Beacon High

Beacon High has signed up to the 'Chromebooks for All' scheme which allows all of our students to purchase a brand new Lenovo 100e Chromebook that retails at £225 for just £80. Parents can either pay the £80 in full or spread the cost interest-free over 10 months, paying just £8 per month. Students who are entitled to Free School Meals will receive a further reduction, paying £40 or £4 per month.

Students will then be able to use their Chromebook both in school and at home. We want all of our students to benefit from this scheme as it provides your child/ children with the tools to accelerate their learning. However, we do understand that there may be some families who, even at the discounted price, do not want to purchase a Chromebook. Therefore we have also set up a 'free rental' scheme. Essentially parents can pay a deposit of £50 and this is returned when their child hands back the Chromebook at the end of each academic year (the free rental devices cannot be taken home over the summer break).

We anticipate that most parents will prefer to purchase rather than rent, as their child will then be able to keep their Chromebook for use at college or university once they have left Beacon High. The purchased Chromebooks also have lesser restrictions on apps (for example Netflix and Youtube) so that families can use them freely in the evening.

Whether students chose to buy their own Chromebook or rent one, we expect students to bring their devices to school every day so that they can be used in lessons. Having their own Chromebook will support students with independent learning and give easy access to a range of supportive platforms such as GCSEPod, BBC Bitesize and MathsWatch.

The 3 options below are set up in the "School Gateway" app;

Option 1 : One off / full payment of £80 (£40 for students on FSM) giving ownership of the new Chromebook

Option 2 : Direct debit set up for 10 monthly installments of £8 (£4 for students on FSM) giving ownership of the new Chromebook

Option 3 : Deposit of £50, refundable when the Chromebook is returned at the end of the academic year.

Many parents at Beacon High already use the School Gateway app as it is the easiest way to top-up lunch cards without having to use cash. If you haven't used the app before, you will need to sign up/create an account after downloading the app for the first time. The set-up process is simple and will take no more than a couple of minutes:



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1. Search for "School Gateway" in the Apple App Store/Google Play or go to www.schoolgateway.com/apple (Apple) or www.schoolgateway.com/android (Android)
2. Install the app and if you are asked then say yes to "Allow Push Notifications"
3. When you launch School Gateway for the first time, please select 'New User' and enter the email address and mobile telephone number you have registered with the school
4. The system will send a PIN code to your phone; please enter this PIN code and the app will be activated for you.



FAQs

What is a Chromebook?

A Chromebook is a slim laptop which runs the Google Chrome operating system, including Google Drive and Google Documents. More details can be found here: www.google.com/chromebooks.

How will the Chromebook be backed up?

The Chromebook is always backed up as everything is saved in the cloud. Students have unlimited storage space in Google Drive.

I have heard that students who get Free School Meals get even more of a discount. My child would actually be entitled to Free School Meals but I just haven't got round to filling in the forms. Can I still get a further reduction?

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, we strongly encourage you to fill out the form which can be found at the link below. Without this completed, the further reduction cannot be applied.



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<https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/benefits-and-financial-support/free-school-meals-and-uniform-grant>

When will students use these Chromebooks?

Students will be expected to bring a charged Chromebook to every lesson, just like they currently bring a pen and planner. The Chromebook can last up to 12 hours between charges - students should not therefore need to charge them in school.

Can my child bring in a device that they already own? Can I buy a device from another high street retailer and my child use that in school?

The school has taken the decision to only allow students to bring Chromebook devices into the school that are purchased through this scheme. The rationale for this is based on a number of factors:

- Firstly, the devices are all registered on the school domain and we are therefore able to manage and monitor how the devices are used effectively.
- The school knows for certain that the devices do not have any viruses (or similar) on them that could compromise the schools ICT system as well as leave our students vulnerable with regards to eSafety.
- By only allowing devices to be purchased through the school we are certain that the devices are not able to bypass the school's comprehensive web filters and therefore we have confidence that all students and staff are secure with regards to what they can and can't access on the devices.

Can I connect the Chromebook to the internet at my house?

Yes. Chromebooks use wireless to connect to a network, so you will need WiFi at home to use the Chromebook on the internet. If you have WiFi, your network security key can be added to the Chromebook before logon. If you don't have WiFi at home, the Chromebook will still work for many things (for example editing Google Docs, Google Slides and Google Sheets all works offline).

What about filtering/internet safety?

The Chromebooks will be managed through the school's G-Suite for Education tenancy which enables us to monitor and filter their use when in school. Whilst students are on the school site, our internet policies apply - this filters out all inappropriate content and social networking. When connected to WiFi at home, students or their family members will be able to use the Chromebook to connect to a wider range of internet sites and



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apps such as Instagram, Facebook, Youtube and Netflix.

Will carrying a Chromebook make my child a target for local criminals?

Many schools across London and the UK already have Chromebook schemes in place. Records of theft experienced by these schools have been entirely opportunistic and we are confident that the chance of targeted incidents taking place is low. We liaise closely with the local Police and will continue to ensure that our students are educated on responsible ways to travel to and from school to minimise their chances of being the victims of crime. Even if a Chromebook was stolen, they can be disabled remotely by us meaning that they are unusable/worthless to criminals trying to sell them on.

I don't like using apps on my phone so can I pay using a computer?

Yes. By using a PC, laptop or Mac, you can go to the School Gateway website and log in using the same information as you would do using the app on a phone.

Can I pay with cash?

Yes, if you want to pay the full £80 (£40 for students on FSM) to purchase a Chromebook or want to pay the £50 deposit for the rental scheme. Just bring the cash to our reception, preferably in an envelope with your child's name and either *£80 Purchase*, *£40 Purchase* or *£50 Deposit* written underneath. If you want to pay by monthly installments though, this must be done by direct debit through School Gateway.



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Below is the contract that your child will need to sign when they collect their new Chromebook:

'Chromebooks for All' Student Contract

This agreement is between you and Beacon High and sets out the terms and conditions for the Chromebooks for All Scheme

I understand that under the terms of the "Chromebooks for All" scheme, I must bring the Chromebook to school everyday ensuring that it is fully charged the night before.

I understand that if I lose either the Chromebook or either part of the charger, I will be liable for the replacement costs.

I understand that if there is any damage to either the Chromebook or either part of the charger, I will be liable for the repair or replacement costs.

I understand the Chromebooks have software to disable lost or stolen devices.

I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that the Chromebook is maintained under my control at all times and is not lent out nor left unattended.

I understand that during school hours, I must only connect to the internet using the school wifi and that if I am found to be connecting through a personal mobile data device, such as a phone, I will have broken the terms of the contract and will have to return the Chromebook.

I understand that during school hours, I must only use software, apps and resources which staff have selected as being appropriate for educational purposes.

I understand that internet use on the device may be logged and monitored.

I understand that I must not take photos and/or videos with the Chromebook during school hours unless directed to by my teacher.

I understand that should I cease to follow the agreement the school may require the Chromebook to be returned.

Chromebook ID Number: _____

Student name: _____ **Staff Witness Initials:** _____

Student signature: _____ **Staff Witness signature:** _____

Date: _____ **Date:** _____