

Middle School Technology Plan FAQ's

Chromebooks

Why are we incorporating one-to-one technology in our curriculum?

Students will have 24/7 access to learning communities and content allowing them to gain skills in collaboration, communication, and critical thinking. Incorporating technology into our curriculum will allow us to improve our academics through student-centered learning and differentiation. Our goal is for students to experience school as engaging, challenging and authentic while learning to use technology as a responsible Christian digital citizen.

Will each student get a school issued Chromebook?

The first year of ABC School's one-to-one initiative, all students in 6th-8th grades will receive a new Chromebook. This device will stay with them throughout their three years in middle school. ABC School will own the Chromebooks and will collect them for the summer months.

Will students bring their Chromebooks home?

For the first several weeks of the school year, students will leave their Chromebooks at school while they are taught the proper care and use of the devices. Students will begin bringing their Chromebooks home early in the school year.

What if we already have a computer at home?

All middle school students will be issued a Chromebook for school use. If you have a computer with internet access at home, you may choose to have your student leave their Chromebook at school each day. Students can access their Google account from any computer with internet access since all of their school assignments will be stored in the cloud.

What if we don't have internet at home?

You may choose to have your student leave their Chromebook at school each day, however there are settings in the Chromebook that will allow students access to their stored files for work offline. When the student returns to school the next day, any changes made while offline will sync to their Google account.

Will my student have an email address?

Yes. ABC School uses Google Apps for Education (G Suite) to manage its student emails. Students will be assigned an email address when they begin to use the Google tools. Student may receive email from teachers and other students but will not be able to receive email from others outside of ABC School unless it's needed for an assignment and approved by staff.

Will students need to bring their Chromebook to school each day?

Yes. Any day when a student is in school, they should come prepared with a fully-charged Chromebook. Every teacher will use the Chromebook differently to fit the needs of the classroom and current studies, but students should come to class equipped with all necessary tools.

How will students transport their Chromebooks?

Students will be given a case specifically designed to protect their Chromebook.

What is the fee for a student to have a Chromebook?

Families will pay an annual Technology Use Fee of \$30 for each of their 6th – 8th grade students. These funds will help cover the ongoing costs of our technology program.

What happens if a Chromebook is broken, lost or stolen?

ABC School will self-insure to help cover these incidents.

Repair: ABC School will split the costs of all repairs up to \$110. Families will be charged a maximum of \$60 for each repair.

Replacement: The first time a device is lost or stolen, the family will be charged the standard technology repair fee of \$60. All subsequent times, the family will be responsible for the full cost of the device.

We have concern about social networking sites. What is the school policy on their use?

ABC School will filter social networking access to students.

Will the Chromebooks be filtered?

ABC School will put a content filter on all Chromebook devices. The filter will be applied both at school and at home. Parents will be given a login to our content filter where they will be able to view reports on how their student is using their Chromebook. Parents will also have limited control of the websites your student is allowed to visit.

In situations where a traveling, cloud-based filter like GoGuardian is not used:

The individual Chromebooks do not have filters built into the device; however, ABC School has filters set up on our wireless internet. If parents want to set up a filter on their home internet or computer system, there are free applications.

A website for parents to set up filtering on their home network is [opendns.com](http://www.opendns.com) or <http://www.opendns.com/home-solutions/parental-controls/>.

The instructions for setting up a family shield are at <https://store.opendns.com/familyshield/setup/>.

[NOTE: The Protect Young Eyes team also recommends the Mobicip extension for monitoring Chromebooks even when it's not attached to the home or school network:

<https://protectyoungeyes.com/content/mobicip-software/>]