



Better schools for our kids – technology enabled learning initiative

Fact Sheet

What is the initiative about?

The technology enabled learning initiative has been developed to ensure that every secondary student in Canberra public schools has the same access to a Chromebook to enhance their learning through technology, irrespective of family circumstances.

Chromebooks will be used as a tool to help engage secondary students, enhance their learning experiences, provide them with opportunity to collaborate and discover, and in doing so produce responsible, literate and knowledgeable digital citizens.

Who gets a Chromebook?

2018 saw the allocation of Chromebooks to Year 7-11 Canberra public secondary students. In 2019, this will extend to new Year 7 students and other new enrolments to secondary public schools.

What is a Chromebook?

A Chromebook is a laptop that runs on Google's web-based operating system - Chrome OS. They are integrated with Google applications (apps) such as Google Forms, Google Calendar and Google Drive

What is G Suite for Education?

G suite for Education contains the Google applications mentioned above as well as others, such as Google Classroom. The suite of applications supports collaboration and communication between students and teachers and will be added to as more applications are introduced that enhance teaching and learning.

You can learn more about what our schools are doing with G suite for Education and Chromebooks by viewing our *Digital Schools - Our Stories* blog at

<http://digitalschoolsact.blogspot.com.au/>

Why Chromebooks?

Chromebooks are super-fast, easy to use, durable and light-weight.

Chromebooks are also capable and versatile in developing coding and computational thinking skills. There are a number of free web app-based integrated development environments (IDEs) that can be used to write and edit code.

Where Can I find more information?

Information about the program, including a Parent Information booklet, is available on the ACT Government Directorate's website at: https://www.education.act.gov.au/teaching_and_learning/learn-anywhere-ict-for-students/better-schools-for-our-kids-technology-enabled-learning.



Chromebook Acceptance Form

IMPORTANT NOTE:

If you wish for your child to participate in the *Better schools for our kids – technology enabled learning* initiative, you and your child both need to complete and sign Part A and Part B of this form without changing it. Students may not be able to receive a Chromebook until this completed form is returned indicating parent agreement to opt in to the initiative. If you do not wish to participate in the initiative, please complete and sign Part C of this form only. Please return the completed form to your child's school.

Part A. Parent/guardian agreement to opt in

I agree for my child to receive a Chromebook under the following conditions:

- The Chromebook issued to my child is for educational purposes while they are enrolled at the school.
- The Chromebook remains the property of the Australian Capital Territory (**Territory**).
- I have read and discussed with my child, the Communities Online: Acceptable use of ICT – Parents and Students Policy and Guidelines and all other policies and documents published on the ACT Education Directorate's [Policy webpage](#).
- While my child is at school, the Territory's filtering software reduces the risk of accidental access to inappropriate online content. The Territory and other people helping or working with the Territory, may monitor use of Chromebooks and may access information added to the Chromebook.
- I am responsible for my child's use of the Chromebook outside regular school hours, including supervision and ensuring healthy, safe and acceptable use.
- The Territory will not monitor my child's use of the Chromebook on my behalf.
- I will immediately notify the school if my child's Chromebook is stolen, lost or damaged and provide any evidence that the Territory asks for, such as a statutory declaration or police report. Stolen, lost or damaged Chromebooks will be remotely disabled by the Territory, so that no one can use them.
- The Territory does not have to repair or replace any Chromebook that is stolen, lost or damaged.
- I will return the Chromebook and any accessories to the school if requested, including for repair and maintenance, or when my child permanently leave the ACT public school system.
- A breach of this form, or the Acceptable use of ICT Agreement already signed by my child, including by misuse of the Chromebook, could result in removal of access to the Chromebook. Any illegal behaviour will be notified to police.

Part B. Student agreement (if parent/ guardian opts in)

I understand that the Chromebook is Territory property. I will:

- follow all of the policies mentioned in Part A of this form, and any instructions from my school, when using the Chromebook,
- take care of the Chromebook including by making sure that it is not lost, damaged or stolen,
- immediately report any issues to my school, and
- return the Chromebook whenever requested or when I permanently leave the ACT public school system.

If I don't use the Chromebook responsibly, my school may confiscate the Chromebook or take any other appropriate actions.

By signing below, I confirm that I have read, understood and agree to the above.

Student ID No:	_____	School:	_____
Student Name:	_____	Student Signature:	_____
Parent/guardian Name:	_____	Parent/guardian Signature:	_____
Date:	_____		

Part C. Parent indication to opt out

I DO NOT give permission for my child _____ (insert child's name) in Year _____ to receive a Chromebook under the *Better schools for our kids– technology enabled learning* initiative. I understand that, unless I have made alternative arrangements with the principal of my child's school, my child will still have access to SchoolsNET, the G suite for Education and other online resources, and a Chromebook for learning purposes during regular school hours.

Student ID No:	_____	School:	_____
Parent/guardian Name:	_____	Parent/guardian Signature:	_____
Date:	_____		