



HITCHIN GIRLS' SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr J. E. Crowther



24 May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Your child will need their own Chromebook, to support learning in class and at home, for when they start at HGS in September. This can be purchased via our school's scheme, or you are welcome to source one independently.

Our school scheme is in partnership with education technology specialist Freedom Tech, and enables the purchase of a Chromebook with payment upfront or spread over time.

We are offering a single device through the scheme: the **Lenovo 300e**. This 11.6" touchscreen Chromebook is light, portable, robust and has a flip design. The cost through the scheme is more expensive than purchasing in a store or online, but does include a warranty and repair service as detailed in the attached leaflet.

We strongly recommended that you purchase a similar model if opting to buy independently.

Please note that, if you wish to buy a Chromebook via the school scheme, the Freedom Tech portal closes at midnight on 11 August 2024. After this date and time it will no longer be possible to purchase via the scheme. If you select the option to pay upfront the payment will be taken when you place the order. If you select the monthly payment option, payments will start on 25 August. Please ensure that there are sufficient funds in your account when this first payment is due to ensure that there are no delays with your order.

Freedom Tech Ordering Portal Details

WEBSITE: www.tech4learners.co.uk

USERNAME: HitchinG24

PASSWORD: S3cure02!

Why have we chosen Chromebooks?

There is a wide range of tablet and laptop-style devices available on the market. We have conducted extensive research when considering the type of device that would be best suited to students in our school, and considering the specification and the cost, the Chromebook is by far the best option. As a Google school who have been using Google Classroom for a number of years, we find that Chromebooks are most compatible with our systems.



Financial support for those in receipt of Free School Meals

For parents/carers of children who currently receive Free School Meals, or have done so in the last 6 years, **there is a discount available on the cost of the school scheme Chromebook.** This subsidy is being provided by the school. **Eligible families will receive a further letter about how to obtain the discount, so are advised to wait to receive this before logging into the Portal.** If you do not receive a letter by the end of June and feel that you are eligible then please contact newintake@hgs.herts.sch.uk.

We would like to emphasise that digital devices are not intended to replace the teaching that takes place in school, but we believe they enhance the students' learning experience.

For further information on the Chromebook purchase scheme please see the attached leaflet.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CHone'.

Caroline Hone

Assistant Headteacher