



9th June 2021

Re: Academic Intervention Devices

Dear Parent/Carer,

Research suggests that the impact of homework on learning is consistently positive and can lead to an **average of five months' additional progress**.

Whilst scholars will continue to use self-quizzing to master the core knowledge, scholars are expected to use the following subject specific platforms independently to further support their independent learning:

1. www.hegartymaths.com: KS3 & KS4 maths
2. www.trockstars.com: KS3 maths
3. www.senecalearning.com: English, history, geography, religious studies, music, KS3 science
4. www.my-gcescience.com: KS4 biology, physics, chemistry
5. www.startprofile.com: careers
6. <https://uk.language-gym.com>: French and Spanish
7. www.thisislanguagel.com: French and Spanish
8. www.groklearning.com: computer science
9. www.quizlet.com: all subjects

Additional tasks using these websites may be set by teachers. Usage data from these platforms is tracked and scholars who make frequent use will be rewarded via weekly and termly celebration assemblies.

A Chromebook on loan

As your child is recognised as in need of a device, we are providing a Chromebook on loan to your child for the rest of this academic year. This device would be kept at home to enable your child to access their lessons if we must send children home because of COVID. Your child can also use the Chromebook to help them complete their homework, access any catch-up resources that teachers share with them and provide a gateway to the World Wide Web - enabling your child to independently develop their learning further.

There is no charge to borrow this device. However, you will have to pay if the Chromebook is stolen, lost or damaged. You will be required to sign a contract to this effect, which we will talk through with you.

Your child will receive their Chromebook the week commencing 14th July. A text message will go out to confirm the exact day of distribution for your child's year group.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Reception in the first instance. Please ensure you read the additional information in this letter regarding safeguarding.

Yours faithfully,

Mr R.D.R Spiers
Principal
Ark Greenwich Free School

Safeguarding Pupil Devices

Introduction

Receiving a device that can be used at home will come with various safeguarding challenges. This document aims to reduce any concerns that you may have by letting you know how we intend to keep your child safe and secure online. The security settings, internet filtering service and monitoring solutions provided with the Chromebooks have been configured and implemented to support our school to meet the Government's Keeping Children safe in education guidance and support the school's Safeguarding Policy.

Security

It will only be possible for your child's school account to be used on the Chromebook. To reduce the likelihood of theft, if a device is factory reset, they have all been configured to automatically reconnect to the school's cloud management service. If a Chromebook is lost or stolen the school will be able to update it, preventing anyone from using it and make it clear it should be returned to the school. This makes the devices worthless to anyone who might steal, sell, or give away the device to a non-Ark student.

Hours of use

Your child's Chromebook will remain the property of Ark Schools. As a result, controls are in place to ensure they are used within our guidelines, this includes restricting the hours in which the device can be used and prohibiting the sites that can be accessed.

Hours of use: 06:00 – 21:30.

Monitoring

In the same way that computer use is monitored inside school, we have a safeguarding solution that can monitor the use of its devices and services wherever they are. This means anything that is typed or accessed on the device will be checked to see if it is appropriate. If it is identified as a concern the schools' safeguarding teams will be notified and provided with a log of the incident. To support safeguarding teams, the solution can capture text or pictures of what is on screen at the time.

Any concern regarding the usage of digital devices will be dealt with in line with the AGFS Behaviour Policy.

The school reserves the right to prevent anyone from using the device and make it clear it should be returned to the school.

Internet Use

You will be able to connect the devices to home/personal/public WiFi networks. To protect scholars from inappropriate content, Ark have subscribed to a cloud-based internet filtering service. This service works closely with the [Internet Watch Foundation](#) to make the internet a safer place for everyone.

If a scholar comes across an inappropriate site, they will be presented with a block page (like the one seen below) informing them of why the site is unavailable.

Websites being accessed all get checked and categorised based on their content. If a site falls into one of the groups listed below it will be blocked. If you believe a site has been blocked by mistake, you can request that it is whitelisted by contacting the school.

Sorry, you can't go to that website

Your school uses LGfL HomeProtect to keep you safe online.
 That's why you can't go to every website.
 If you think you should be able to get to this one,
 please speak to your teacher.
 The site you have chosen has been categorized as: *school*

Technical Details



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abortions • Adult Mixed Content • Adware • Age Restriction • Alcohol • Body Modification • Bullying • Child Erotica • Child Sexual Abuse • Classifieds • Copyright • Infringement • Criminal Skills • Extreme Gambling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Games • Hacking • Hate Speech • Host is an IP • Humour • Infected Hosts • Intimate Apparel • Malicious Web Obfuscation • Malware • Malware Hosts • Marijuana • Match Making • Matrimonial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network Timeout • New URL • Nudity • Occult • Open Mixed Content • Pay to Surf • Peer to Peer • Phishing • Phishing Hosts • Phone Cards • PIPCU • Pornography • Profanity • Remote Access Tools • Safe Search 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search Engine • Self-Harm • Social Networking • Substance Abuse • Terrorism • Tobacco • Under Construction • Viruses • Weapons • Web Chat • Web Proxy
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Guidance for Parents:

If you notice changes in your child's behaviour, you should talk to them or contact the school. There are lots of helpful resources available online that can help you support your child's use of technology. Below are some links that may be useful for you:

- <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/> - Practical advice for parents
- [Children's Commissioner's Digital 5 a day](#) – Five steps to better mental wellbeing
- [LGfL Tips for Parents](#) – Six top tips for parents
- <https://swiggle.org.uk/> - A child friendly search engine
- <https://www.lgfl.net/online-safety/resource-centre> - Safeguarding and Online-Safety Resources
- <https://swgfl.org.uk/resources/checklists/> - Social Media Checklist

Your One-to-one Device Home-School Agreement with Ark Greenwich Free School



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Rationale and Purpose

We are excited to share with you the details of our one-to-one device programme as part of our digital strategy.

By September 2022, each scholar in an Ark school, from Year 4 upwards, should have a 1:1 device which they can use to support their learning at home. This device will be a Google Chromebook from our current technology partner, Lenovo.

The Chromebook that we will provide for your child provides more time for learning at home, which might include:

1. Completing usual homework on their Chromebook
2. Working through online learning materials that the school has shared
3. Researching topics for school projects
4. Pre-reading articles or watching videos in advance of a new topic at school
5. Completing short tests to check learning from lessons during the day or week
6. Communicating with teachers and accessing lessons in the case of absence from school
7. Studying and revising independently for tests and exams
8. Catch up using online learning platforms when they have fallen behind in lessons
9. Learn new things as part of enrichment programmes and clubs

The Chromebooks will come with all the apps and software that your child needs to support their learning for no additional charge. They will have access to email and Microsoft Teams to enable communication with their teachers and their peers as appropriate.

It is important to remember though that a Chromebook is an additional educational tool and not as a replacement for traditional teaching and learning methods. It is still important for your child to attend school every day and to participate in their lessons fully.

The Device

After significant research for a suitable device, we selected Google's Chromebook for the programme. With their power, speed and versatility, the devices will give scholars and teachers everything they need to work with professional-grade software, anywhere they want.

Chromebook Features

- Less than 8 seconds to boot up
- Long battery life
- Easy to manage centrally
 - Works seamlessly with Office 365 and other cloud-based applications which our scholars and staff already use extensively.

The programme also provides the following benefits:

- The device is equipped with all the software required, including updates and upgrades.



- The device will seamlessly connect to the school's IT network both at school and at home
- The device is fully supported by the Ark IT Team

The device is under warranty against any hardware faults

Ownership of the Device

Ark Schools retains ownership of the device and grants permission to the scholar to use the device according to the guidelines set out in this document and in conjunction with our [Acceptable Use Policy](#). Ark Schools retains the right to collect and/or inspect the device and accessories at any time, including via electronic remote access; and to alter, add, erase or delete installed software or hardware.

If your child leaves the school, you may, should you wish, choose to purchase the device at a depreciated cost of £50.

The Internet Dongle

For the Chromebook to be of use at home, you need to have access to the Internet at home. We know that this is not always the case.

If your child is in Y10 and is eligible for the pupil premium, the DfE has made provision via the school to provide a dongle. These are free of charge and have a data allowance of 8GB per month.

If your child is in any other year group and you do not have internet access at home then you should contact the school.

Your and our Responsibilities

By accepting this device, you are accepting these responsibilities as well. You agree to:

- Treat the equipment with as much care as if it were your own property.
- Allow all automatic updates pushed to the device by Ark Schools.
- Always keep the device secure (or in a secure place where others do not have access) or with you (or within your sight).
- Use the device on a hard, flat surface. Leaving a device on a soft surface (blankets, pillows, furniture) can lead to overheating and damage.
- Keep the equipment clean. For example, avoid eating or drinking while using the device.
- Care for and prevent damage to the power cord (you will be required to pay for replacements).
- Refrain from applying any stickers, paint, glitter, or other decorations. The device is the property of Ark Schools and should not be altered.
- Parents/Guardians/Scholars are welcome to purchase a decorative case or add stickers to a case they have purchased.
- Clean the screen with a soft, dry anti-static cloth or with a screen cleaner designed specifically for LCD type screens only.
- Establish a routine of charging the device at home overnight.
- Read any safety warnings included with the device.



You agree **not** to:

- Let anyone use the device you have been assigned. Loss or damage that occurs when anyone else is using your assigned device or accessories will be your full responsibility.
- Expose the device to extreme temperatures or elements including water.
- Remove or cover the device asset tags on the bottom of the device or power cord.
- Change the physical structure of the device. Doing so will void the warranty, and you will be responsible for the repair or replacement cost.
- Remove or interfere with the serial number or any identification placed on the device.
- Do anything to the device or accessories that will permanently alter it in any way.
- Touch the device screen with sharp objects (e.g., pen, pencil, etc.). Close the device with an object (such as pencils, pens or headphone plugs) on the keyboard that can damage the screen.

Ark Schools have responsibilities too. By accepting this device, you are accepting that Ark Schools can discharge our responsibilities as well. You agree that:

- Ark Schools will monitor your use of the device using a variety of methods to ensure compliance with Ark School's Student Acceptable Use Policy and this agreement. Any attempt to "jailbreak" the device or remove the Ark Schools' profiles will result in disciplinary action.
- All aspects of Ark School's Student Acceptable Use Policy remain in effect during the use of the device. We will provide content filtering outside of the network. However, Ark Schools does not have full control of information on the Internet and no filtering solution is perfect. Further details can be found in the accompanying Safeguarding Policy.
- The use of any Internet-based file-sharing tools or Proxy Apps/websites or VPNs designed to circumvent filtering software are explicitly prohibited. File sharing applications and protocols may not be used to facilitate the illegal sharing of copyrighted material.
- Scholars are permitted to alter or add files to customise the assigned device to their own working styles (i.e., wallpaper, default fonts, and other system enhancements). All customisations must follow the Ark Schools Student Acceptable Use Policy.

Dealing with issues

The below process outlines how a scholar gets support for the digital strategy device that has been allocated to them. You must do the following if your device becomes faulty or damaged

- Take it to reception where it will be reported to the appropriate person who will be able to assist. Reception is open to scholars from 07:45 before school and until 18:00 afterschool.
- You will be given a temporary device to use while we send your device off for repairs. The same agreement covers the temporary device.

Warranty and Repair Costs

Free and included:

- Anything covered by the 1-year manufacturer warranty covering hardware and manufacturing defects.



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- Anything software related where appropriate software up to and including the Operating System needs to be re-installed.

Not included and therefore paid by the Parents/Guardians/Scholars

- Hardware repairs after the first year.
- Repairs to cover accidental damage.

The maximum charge if the device is written off and a replacement is required is the cost price of the device. This is currently £200 however this may increase over time due to inflation and currency rates.

Typical charges for typical repairs are:

Job	Details	Price
Screen repair	Supply and replace broken laptop screen.	£50
Replace power socket	Supply and replace power socket for laptop.	
Repair liquid damage/drink spillage	Dry out various parts, assuming none need replacing. (If replacements are needed, the price will be higher.)	



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Parent/Student One-to-One Device Programme Contract

The following items reiterate some of the most important points covered in the Student Device Home School Agreement.

	Student Initial	Parent Initial
<p>I understand that I will report any damage, loss or theft of the device to ARK Schools staff immediately. In addition, I understand that my parent/carer will be held responsible for the loss or damage of the device in accordance with the policies outlined in the Ark Schools Student Device Home School Agreement.</p> <p>The maximum charge if the device is lost or written off and a replacement is required is the cost price of the device. This is currently £200 however this may increase over time due to inflation and currency rates. Typical charges for typical repairs vary and are up to £200.</p>		
I will not leave my device or accessories unattended unless it is locked in a secure place. I take full responsibility if my device or accessories become lost or stolen.		
I will read and follow the device care advice in this document		
I will only use the device for the purposes set out in the Ark Schools Student Device Home School Agreement and the Student Acceptable Use Policy.		
I will immediately report any problems with my device to the main school Reception.		

Terms of Agreement

The scholar is responsible for the care and appropriate use of technology. I understand if my child violates the guidelines agreed to in the ARK Schools Student Device Use Agreement or Acceptable Use Policy, his/her privilege to use the technology may be restricted or removed and he/she may be subject to disciplinary action.

The device and accessories remain the property of Ark Schools. Parents and scholars agree to return the device and accessories to Ark Schools in the same condition it was issued to the scholar less reasonable wear.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____