



Nurturing Our Future - Growing Together
Kia atawhai aa mua - Kia tipu ngatahi

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Maungatautari Syndicate is excited to offer students the opportunity to bring their Chromebooks to assist their learning in 2025.

What device should I buy?

As Tamahere is a designated Chromebook School, we highly recommend acquiring a Chromebook for your child. Opting for a Chromebook is cost-effective and enables seamless access to the Google School Educational Workspace using their student login credentials. This enhances convenience and ensures heightened protection and online safety for your child.

If you are purchasing a new Chromebook, here are a few facts to help you decide.

Chromebook

- 1. Affordability:** Chromebooks are often more budget-friendly than traditional laptops, making them a practical choice for families on a budget.
- 2. Simplicity:** Chromebooks are designed for simplicity and ease of use, making them ideal for young students who may not be as tech-savvy. The user interface is intuitive, and the devices typically have a faster startup time.
- 3. Google Integration:** Google Workspace for Education, a Chromebook seamlessly integrates with these tools. This can enhance collaboration, streamline assignments, and facilitate communication between students and teachers.
- 4. Security:** Chromebooks are known for their robust security features. They have built-in antivirus protection, automatic updates, and data encryption, providing a safer online environment for students.
- 5. Long Battery Life:** Most Chromebooks offer an impressive battery life, ensuring the device can last through a school day without frequent charging.
- 6. Cloud Storage:** Chromebooks rely heavily on cloud-based storage, which means students can access their files from anywhere with an internet connection. This promotes flexibility and helps prevent the loss of important documents.
- 7. Parental Controls:** Chromebooks have parental control features, allowing parents to manage and monitor their children's online activities to ensure a safe and controlled digital environment.
- 8. Lightweight and Portable:** Chromebooks are generally lightweight and compact, making them easy for children to carry between home and school without feeling burdened.
- 9. Durability:** Many Chromebooks are built with durability in mind, featuring spill-resistant keyboards and rugged designs to withstand the wear and tear that can come with student use.

10. Educational Apps: The Chrome OS supports a wide range of educational apps available through the Google Play Store, offering additional resources for learning and engagement in the classroom and at home.

Consider Robust, Lightweight, Screen Size 11-12 inches, RAM (minimum recommendation 4GB), and Long Battery Life.

See our attached options.

What will it cost?

We have negotiated special deals with PB Tech and Noel Leeming for BYOD Chromebooks, which are attached to this letter. You do not need to buy from these stores; you are invited to find the best deal possible for your family.

Can we bring any type of Chromebook?

Yes, students may bring any type of Chromebook. However, it's important to ensure the device meets the following requirements:

Battery Life: The Chromebook's battery life should last the entire school day, as chargers are not permitted at school. While most new Chromebooks meet this requirement, older models may struggle to hold a charge for the full day.

Compatibility: We recommend a newer Chromebook model to ensure it can run all required apps and programs effectively. Older devices may have difficulty accessing essential school software, such as Lexia.

Software Updates: Please ensure the Chromebook has the latest version of Chrome OS installed. Keeping the device updated ensures optimal performance and compatibility with the tools and programs used in our school.

By selecting an up-to-date Chromebook, students can maximise their learning experience at school.

We recommend Chromebook models with 4GB RAM (working memory) for better multitasking.

Here are some options to consider

1. [PB TECH BYOD](#) - School Coupon Code is 8569238
2. [Noel Leeming BYOD](#)

What else do we need to purchase?

It is highly recommended that students have a protective case or bag for their device and a set of headphones.

How are Apps installed?

Chromebooks have Apps pre-installed against your student's @tamahere.school.nz account. So, when students log into a Chromebook with their @tamahere.school.nz address, they will have all the school Apps in their Apps launcher.

Can the devices stay at school?

We ask that students charge their devices at home.

If a student has a genuine reason to leave their device at school occasionally, they can negotiate this with their teacher, who will ensure the device will be secure until the next day.

How do I insure my device?

Please contact your insurance company to arrange policy coverage for the device at school. When your child is not in class, a cabinet will be provided for your child to secure their device in.

What happens at the start of the year?

A digital citizenship programme will be run during the first week and throughout the year; after this, we will invite students to bring their devices along with the attached and signed Student Agreement.

Can we do anything once we purchase a device?

We have attached a How To Set Up Your Child's BYOD Chromebook Guide along with this letter; please set up your Chromebook accordingly after you purchase it.

For more information on setting up Parental Control via Google's Family Link App on Chromebook, please visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhCtRMyS0_Q (Guide Only)

If you use the Family Link App, please select **NO** at the "Control for signing in" option. Otherwise, it will ask for a "Parent Access Code" whenever your child needs to log in to their device.

Questions

If you have further questions, please contact Natalie or Danny.

Regards

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