

2025 Chromebook Procedures and Information for Students and Parents

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Once again, we will be extending the offer to parents of students in Years 4, 5 & 6 to purchase a Chromebook for 2025. All students in Years 4, 5 & 6 will be using their Chromebooks for the majority of their learning as it allows staff to track and monitor the work of students and for staff to provide instant feedback. Chromebooks operate on the Google operating system, and run all applications through the Chrome browser, including Docs, Sheets, Slides and more. The benefit of Chromebooks is the ability to share information and for students to collaborate on learning tasks.

We will have a purchase option through the Department of Education, Edunet. The online ordering portal is accessible via the below link: It is a reliable and cost effective package.

Website: <http://valepark.technologyportal.com.au>

Access Code: VPPS2025

If parents wish to purchase a Chromebook themselves directly from stores like Officeworks or Harvey Norman, we ask that you purchase a specified Chromebook to ensure its capability to work effectively on our network system:

- **Lenovo 100e Clamshell Gen 4 Chromebook**
- **Asus CR1100 Chromebook**
- **Lenovo 500e Yoga Gen 3 Chromebook**

When purchasing through this option, you must also purchase insurance for your device. There will, however, be an additional charge of \$55.00 for a school licensing fee. The school will issue you an invoice.

Please Note: We advise against purchasing any tablet models as these are devoid of a headphone jack, which is required for NAPLAN and other online assessments students complete. We **will not** be able to apply a license to these devices.

Use of Technology

This document provides students and their parents/caregivers with information about the general use of technology, ownership of the devices, rights, and responsibilities for possession of the device, care of the Chromebook and being a responsible digital citizen.

Students and their parents/caregivers are reminded that the safe use of School Technology is essential and that everything done on any School or personal owned computer, network, or electronic communication device is monitored by the departments SWIFT programme. Inappropriate use of School Technology will result in appropriate consequences.

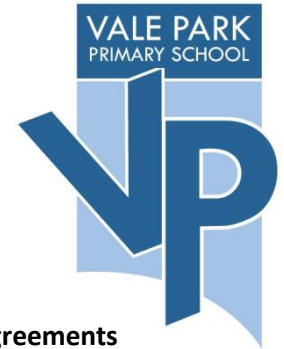
Whether the Chromebook is bought through Edunet or a private seller, the School provides the Chrome licence and will install school chosen Apps and settings. Additionally, Vale Park Primary School teaching and admin staff retain the right to collect and/or inspect Chromebooks at any time, including via electronic remote access and to alter, add or delete installed software or hardware.

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Collecting a Chromebook and the Student/Parent/Caregiver Guidelines and Essential Agreements

All parents/caregivers are to go through the Chromebook User Essential Agreements with their child. These forms **are to be signed** and returned before students can collect their Chromebooks.

After they have been set up by our technology staff they will be distributed. We hope to have these available from the beginning of the school year. Those that have been ordered through Ednet will be distributed day one of term one.

Rights and Responsibilities

Responsibility for Electronic Data

Chromebooks will only have apps or extensions that have been selected by school staff and installed by a member of the Vale Park Primary School technology staff. Users of Vale Park Primary School Technology are to be aware that information stored on school devices must not contain matters that are private or of a personal nature. School staff will have access to information to any data that is, or was, stored on the Chromebook, school network. Teachers, school administrators and the technology department staff will be using monitoring software, to monitor the use of student Chromebooks at any time at school. By using a Chromebook, parents and students agree to such access, monitoring and recording of their use.

Educational Use

School-issued devices are to be solely used for educational purposes and students are always to adhere to the Acceptable User Policy and all its corresponding administrative procedures. Teachers will, at appropriate times throughout the year, reinforce the above matters with their students as part of our Cyber Safety Education and Awareness Program.

Operating System and Security

Students may not use or install any other operating system on their Chromebook. The current version of Chrome OS will be installed, supported, and managed by the school and the Department

Updates

The Chromebook operating system, Chrome OS, updates itself automatically. Students do not need to manually update their Chromebooks.

Virus Protection

Chromebooks use the principle of “defence in depth” to provide multiple layers of protection against viruses and malware, including data encryption and verified boot.

Content Filter

The school utilises the DfE Internet content filter, SWIFT, that follows Federal Government Regulations. All Chromebooks will have all internet activity protected and monitored by the school while at school. If an educationally valuable site is blocked, students can contact their teachers to request the site be unblocked.

N.B. Parents/caregivers are responsible for filtering and monitoring any internet connection students receive that is not provided by the school.

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Software - Google Apps for Education

Chromebooks seamlessly integrate with the Google Apps for Education suite of productivity and collaboration tools. This suite includes Google Docs (word processing), Sheets, Slides, Drawings, and Forms.

- All work is stored in the cloud.
- Some web apps will be available to use when the Chromebook is not connected to the Internet

Repairing/Replacing Your Chromebook

Vendor Warranty

When purchasing Chromebooks through the Edunet webstore, each device includes a 1-year warranty that covers normal use, mechanical breakdown, and faulty construction. For added protection, parents can opt for two upgrade options: the **Lenovo 3-Year Standard Education Warranty** and the **Lenovo Sealed Battery Upgrade**.

The **Lenovo 3-Year Standard Education Warranty** offers comprehensive coverage, including accidental damage protection, which is crucial for safeguarding against drops, spills, bumps, and structural failures. The vendor will provide normal replacement parts necessary to repair the Chromebook or, if needed, a Chromebook replacement once. This warranty includes onsite repairs at your home or school, allowing students to focus on learning without the stress of potential repair costs or device damage.

Given that many Chromebooks may start to show wear after year 6, we highly recommend investing in the 3-year warranty. It not only covers necessary repairs with no additional fees or excess payments but also provides valuable peace of mind for families.

Parents and Caregivers of students who purchase a Chromebook are asked to check their Home and Contents insurance and to ensure it is covered in their individual policy outside of the home.

The vendor warranty does not warrant against damage caused by misuse, abuse, or accidents.

Using Your Chromebook at School

Charging Chromebooks

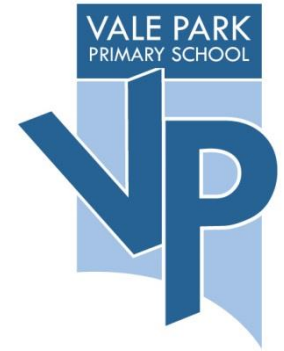
Students are expected to bring a fully charged Chromebook to school every day and bring their Chromebooks to all classes unless specifically advised not to do so by their teacher.

Backgrounds and Themes

Images or graphics containing students cannot be used as a background or theme. Students must have teacher approval before uploading a background.

Sound

Sound must always be muted unless permission is obtained from a teacher. Individual ear bud headphones can be purchased on the Edunet website or students may bring their own. Students must use their own personal set of headphones for sanitary reasons.



Printing

Students will be encouraged to digitally publish and share their work with their teachers and peers when appropriate. As all work is stored in an Internet/cloud application, students should seek permission before printing. Students may set up printing at home if they wish to do so. Information about Google Cloud Print can be obtained here: <http://www.google.com/cloudprint/learn/>

Logging into a Chromebook

Students will log into their Chromebooks using their school issued education account that has been set up by Edunet. Students are never share their account passwords with others. If the password is compromised, inform the class teacher who will arrange to have the password reset.

Managing and Saving Digital Work with a Chromebook

Most of the student work will be stored in internet/cloud-based applications and can be accessed from any computer with an Internet connection and most mobile Internet devices.

Using Chromebooks Outside of School

Students who buy a Chromebook are encouraged to use their Chromebooks at home and at times, other locations outside of school. A Wi-Fi Internet connection will be required for the majority of Chromebook use; however, some applications can be used while not connected to the Internet. Students will be given information on how to connect their Chromebook to home internet connections if a note requiring that information is given to the class teacher. Students are bound by the Vale Park Primary School Acceptable Use Policy, Administrative Procedures, and all other guidelines in this document wherever they use their Chromebooks.

Chromebooks Left at Home

Students are required to bring their Chromebooks to school every day, fully charged, unless notified otherwise by their teacher.

Taking Care of Your Chromebook

Students are responsible for the general care of the Chromebook. Chromebooks that are broken or fail to work properly must be reported to parents or the portal as soon as possible so that the matter can be dealt with immediately. Students are never to leave their Chromebooks unattended, and keep their passwords confidential. Chromebooks are to be always be transported in a protective bag.

General Precautions

Please do not have food or drink next to Chromebooks.

Cords, cables, and removable storage devices must be inserted carefully as damage could result. Chromebooks are not be used or stored near pets. We don't want to hear that "The dog ate my Chromebook!"

They are not be used with the power cord plugged in where the cord may be a tripping hazard.

Heavy objects are never be placed on top of Chromebooks.

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Carrying Chromebooks

Always transport Chromebooks with care (in a protective bag) and with the screen closed.

Never lift Chromebooks by the screen. Never carry Chromebooks with the screen open. Never leave Chromebooks on the floor. Chromebooks are to be transported in a cover to and from school and to areas within the school. Protective bags may be purchased through Edunet or through another retailer.

Screen Care

The Chromebook screen can be damaged if subjected to heavy objects, rough treatment, some cleaning solvents, and other liquids. The screens are particularly sensitive to damage from excessive pressure, heat and light.

Do not put pressure on the top of a Chromebook when it is closed.

Do not place any items on the keypad.

Do not store a Chromebook with the screen open.

Make sure there is nothing on the keyboard before closing the lid (e.g. pens, pencils, rulers or disks).

Only clean the screen with a soft, dry microfiber cloth or anti-static cloth.

Chromebooks left unattended

Under no circumstances are Chromebooks be left in unsupervised areas. These areas include the school grounds, vehicles, toilet areas, computer labs, under cover areas, play spaces, OSHC, Gym, Library, unlocked classrooms, and hallways. Any Chromebooks left in these areas are in danger of being stolen. If a Chromebook is found in an unsupervised area, it is to be taken immediately to the classroom teacher in the first instance. If this is not possible, it is to be taken to the front office.

Purchasing

The Chromebooks will cost varying prices depending on which Chromebook is purchased and which accessories are purchased along with the Chromebook. However, the minimum cost for each Chromebook purchased through the Edunet website are between \$484.68 and \$654.98.

Please ring the front office if you have challenges in ordering/purchasing a Chromebook for your child.

As stated, parents are free to purchase their Chromebooks through another vendor, but it is recommended you purchase either an Lenovo 100e Clamshell Gen 4 Chromebook, Asus CR1100 Chromebook and Lenovo 500e Yoga Gen 3 Chromebook, or equivalent Chromebook. No tablets.

To ensure prompt delivery of the Chromebooks prior to term one 2025 please ensure purchases are made prior to the 5th of January 2025. For Pre-Christmas orders please order by Thursday the 28th of November 2024. This will allow Chromebooks to be delivered to the school and allow enough time for the school technician to install the appropriate software in time for the start of Term 1 2025.

To **purchase** a Chromebook please go to <http://valepark.technologyportal.com.au>

Password: VPPS2025

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Digital Citizenship - Appropriate Uses and Digital Citizenship

While working in a digital and collaborative environment, students are to always conduct themselves as responsible digital citizens by adhering to the following:

1. Respect Yourself. I will show respect for myself through my actions. I will select online names that are appropriate. I will use caution with the information, images, and other media that I post online. I will carefully consider what personal information about my life, experiences, or relationships I post. I will not be obscene. I will act with integrity.
2. Protect Yourself. I will ensure that the information, images, and materials I post online will not put me at risk. I will not publish my personal details, contact details, or a schedule of my activities. I will report any attacks or inappropriate behaviour directed at me while online. I will protect passwords, accounts and resources.
3. Respect Others. I will show respect to others. I will not use electronic mediums to antagonise, bully, harass, or stalk people. I will show respect for other people in my choice of websites: I will not visit sites that are degrading to others, pornographic, racist or inappropriate. I will not enter other people's private spaces or areas.
4. Protect Others. I will protect others by reporting abuse and not forwarding inappropriate materials or communications. I will avoid unacceptable materials and conversations.
5. Respect Intellectual property. I will request permission to use copyrighted or otherwise protected materials. I will suitably cite all use of websites, books, media etc. I will acknowledge all primary sources. I will validate information. I will use and abide by the fair use rules.
6. Protect Intellectual Property. I will request to use the software and media others produce. I will purchase, license and register all software or use available free and open-source alternatives rather than pirating software. I will purchase my music and media and refrain from distributing these in a manner that violates their licences.

Copyright and File Sharing

Students are required to follow all copyright laws around all media including text, images, programs, music, and video. Downloading, sharing, and posting online illegally obtained media is against the Acceptable Use Policy.

Online & Social Media Guidelines

Be aware of what you post online. **Website and social media venues are very public.** What you contribute leaves a **permanent** digital footprint for all to see. Do not post anything you wouldn't want friends, enemies, parents, teachers, future colleagues, or employers to see. If you wouldn't show it at a whole school assembly, simply don't post it.

Follow the school's code of conduct when writing online. It is acceptable to disagree with other's opinions; however, do it in a **respectful** way. Make sure that criticism is constructive and not hurtful. What is inappropriate in the classroom is inappropriate online.

Think before you act because **your virtual actions are real and permanent!** (like footprints on the Moon!) How you represent yourself online is an extension of yourself. Do not misrepresent yourself by using someone else's identity.

Be safe online. **Never give out personal information**, including, but not limited to, last names, phone numbers, addresses, exact birth dates and pictures. Do not share your password with anyone besides your teacher and parents.

Students are encouraged NOT to share their personal passwords with other students as well as be vigilant with their Chromebook.

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Linking to other websites to support your thoughts and ideas is, at times appropriate. However, be sure to **read and review** the entire website prior to linking to ensure that all information is appropriate for a school setting. If in doubt seek teacher or parental advice.

Follow the principles of **Academic Honesty**. Do your own work! Do not use other people's intellectual property without their permission. Be aware that it is a violation of copyright law to copy and paste other's thoughts. It is good practice to hyperlink and reference to your sources. Be aware that pictures may also be protected under copyright laws. Verify that you have permission to use the image or that it is under Creative Commons attribution.

Online work is to be **well written**. Follow writing conventions including proper grammar, capitalisation and punctuation. If you edit someone else's work, be sure it is in the spirit of improving the writing.

If you run across inappropriate material that makes you feel uncomfortable or is not respectful, tell your teacher or parent immediately. **Follow Cyber Safety recommendations.**

Vale Park Primary School provides all students and staff with learning technology facilities for educational and school related use. The resources provided include computers, peripherals, access to network resources, email, access to the learning management system, and web-based services and resources.

Vale Park Primary School email accounts, blogs, personal web pages, or any other computer-based material are not private and may be viewed by staff and other Department of Education personnel at any time.

To have access to the School's learning technology resources, users must agree to abide by the following agreement.

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Learning Technology Chromebook User Essential Agreements

As a member of the Vale Park Primary School community, I will:

- Respect the privacy of all computer users at school by correctly using only my own username and password – I will keep my username and password private
- Respect the privacy of all computer users at school by accessing and editing only my work
- Use the Chromebook at school for educational purposes and when instructed by my teachers
- Always be respectful of others when using the Chromebook and any digital technologies
- Always report any inappropriate material accessed at school, communication that made me uncomfortable or cyber bullying (known to me) to a teacher
- Be cyber safe by keeping mine and others' personal information and details private – this includes surname, address, phone number, photo, school name and location
- Access and store appropriate images and audio on the Chromebook
- Carefully check the credentials and reliability of any information obtained from the Internet
- Abide by copyright law by paraphrasing someone else's work and acknowledging the owners of resources used
- Publish work and post messages using language I know is acceptable and respectful at VPPS
- Treat the Chromebook with respect and care, including:
 - Always transporting the Chromebook safely in a protective bag
 - Storing the Chromebook safely and away from the floor, food and water
 - Keeping the Chromebook clean and free of graffiti
 - Taking responsibility to ensure that the Chromebook is not lost or damaged
- Promptly report damage to the hardware and/or software to the class teacher and IT Support staff
- Fully charge the Chromebook each evening in preparation for the next school day
- Regularly backup school files on the Chromebook to Google Drive or a USB
- Be supervised by my parents/carers who will monitor my use of the Chromebook and internet at home, as this is not the responsibility of the school

By signing below, the student and their parent/caregiver agree to follow and accept:

- This Chromebook Agreement in its entirety
- The Online and Social Media Guidelines (above)
- Chromebook Acceptable Use Guidelines (provided in the letter sent home)
- In no event will Vale Park Primary School be held liable to any claim of damage, negligence, or breach of duty

We agree to the above agreements. Please return this User Essential Agreements form back to the school.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Dated: ____ / ____ / ____

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