

# École Deer Meadow School

5411 61 Avenue, Olds, Alberta



## Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Fact Sheet for Parents and Students

**At École Deer Meadow, students from grades 5-8 are encouraged to bring their own device to and from school each day.**

- **BYOD** - is quickly becoming the norm for many classrooms across the province and in our school division. Allowing personal devices into our classrooms helps personalize and enhance learning for our students.
- **Chromebooks** are the devices that CESD is recommending for our BYOD classrooms. Here are 5 things we'd like all students, parents, and staff to know about Chromebooks:
  - Chromebooks are, on average, approximately one-third of the cost of traditional laptops. Chromebooks operate on the Chrome operating system and are designed to be used while connected wirelessly to the Internet.
  - Chromebooks support the majority of web-based applications, and allow students access to thousands of free apps through Google Chrome. Students safely store their data remotely using Google Drive. Students can print at school through Google Print.
  - Although Chromebooks do not allow the downloading of specific games or software, (i.e. Microsoft Office), they offer thousands of viable alternatives in Google Apps for Education.
  - Chromebooks can be purchased through many local retailers - both in stores and online. Common examples of Chromebook manufacturers are Lenovo, Samsung, Dell, and HP.
- **Other Laptops** can also be used in our BYOD classrooms as long as they meet the following basic standards:
  - 2G of RAM - Webcam - QWERTY U.S. Keyboard or keyboard function.
  - Compatibility with both 802.11n and 802.11ac wireless networks.
  - Battery life of 5 hours or longer - as charging stations are not available in classrooms.
  - Capability of running Chrome browser.

### **CHROMEBOOKS ARE THE NUMBER ONE SUGGESTED DEVICE FOR STUDENT USE**

- **Responsible Use of Technology** remains a focus in our schools. As such all students and staff are expected to follow the expectations outlined in our [CESD Technology Responsible Use](#) document.
- **Google for Education** - is already our common platform for our students and staff. It's easy to use and cost effective. Many students and staff are already using it because they have access to amazing tools anytime, from anyplace. Here are 3 things we would like all students, parents, and staff to know about Google for Education:
  - Google for Education is an internet based application that provides safe and secure access to applications such as word processing, document sharing and storage, video, audio, presentations, spreadsheets, and email.

- Chinook's Edge School Division has been using Google for Education for the past 8 years. Like most school divisions in Alberta, we have a legally binding contract with Google to ensure that student and staff information remains safe and secure according to our [Information Security Procedures](#).
- Student's last names are not used or displayed. For example, Jane Ethel Doe's username will be [jed4321@cesd73.ca](mailto:jed4321@cesd73.ca) and her profile will list her as Jane Unknown.

- **Participation in BYOD** - For the 2023-24 school year, it is encouraged that all students in grades 5-8 bring a device to school each and every day. The device must meet the requirements listed above. If you have any other questions or comments, please call the school.
- **Security, Maintenance, and Charging** - all personal devices are the student's responsibility.

By signing below, you acknowledge your student's responsibility for their own device. You agree to the terms in the [CESD Technology Responsible Use](#) agreement. You acknowledge the personal device must come to and from school with your child each day. You agree that should the device be damaged/lost at school, the school will not be held responsible. All care and maintenance for the device will be at the cost of the student and/or family.

I \_\_\_\_\_ (name of parent/guardian) give permission to \_\_\_\_\_ (student name) to bring their Chromebook/laptop to and from school each day, and the school is absolved of all damage, loss or maintenance of the device should this occur.

\_\_\_\_\_ (signature of parent/guardian)                      \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Sincerely,

Mr. Allan Whitehead  
Principal

