

Treverton College Computer Technology Roll Out

In our quest to be a relevant, 21st century school that prepares our pupils for the future, we realise that we have to produce young people who are technologically capable and computer literate. Although mobile devices such as phones could be used, they are a huge distraction in the classroom. We require every pupil to have a laptop that can be used in class to do research, create content, collaborate, communicate and engage in educational activities. We are using a number of online services to enhance pupils' learning and these are best accessed on a laptop. As a result, **mobile phones will not be allowed in class.**

How laptops are being used in the classroom:

G Suite is a free cloud computing platform that includes a number of online creation and collaboration tools developed by Google. This is the platform we have been using at Treverton in conjunction with various Microsoft applications. This offers a set of tools to provide support for sound learning opportunities. Some of the ways it is being used in classroom include the following:

- **Google Classroom** is a free platform that our teachers use, that facilitates classroom communication. Resources, assessments, assignments, expectations and deadlines are shared with pupils. Assignments are submitted, marked and returned to pupils via Google Classroom. It streamlines the process of information sharing between teachers and students.
- **Google Drive** is a cloud storage platform which pupils can use to store their files and through which they can access content and resources from wherever they are. Google Drive also includes a set of content creation and collaborative tools (Docs, Sheets, Slides and Forms).

Besides the use of the G Suite platform, the following are examples of our technology integration initiatives:

- **Plagiarism.org** is an Internet-based plagiarism detection service used by Treverton. Learners are required to make use of it for the submission of essays and research assignments (especially those which are to be submitted to the IEB). Each pupil is issued with a Plagiarism license.
- **Lab on Line** is available for supplementary English learning.
- **Readers Are Leaders** is another language program which assists reading skills.
- Mathematics students could use programmes such as **Siyavula**, **Maths Buddy** etc.
- Science students could use **Siyavula** to enhance learning outside of the classroom.
- Some assessments in certain subjects take place electronically. These would include spot tests and questionnaires. Online quizzes are sometimes used in class too.
- Computers are used for research, writing and submission of tasks via Plagiarism.org, which then generates the plagiarism report on their assignment.
- Many subjects require pupils to prepare visual aids to enhance oral presentations.
- The watching of videos and flipped classroom lessons is a requirement in certain subjects. Film study is a component of the languages and it assists pupils if they wish to re-watch snippets of the film being studied. Some subjects require pupils to make their own movies. Other subjects use interactive documentaries to assist abstract learning as well as for discussion platforms and blogging.
- Gamifying learning. Teachers use online and other tools like **Kahoot!** to enhance pupils' engagement in learning.
- **Google Meet** has been very effectively used as an On-line teaching platform.

NB! Technology is not to dictate how we teach, but to supplement our teaching.

Device requirements:

The general requirement is to be able to connect wirelessly to the internet and have a reliable

screen, keyboard and pointer that allow efficient input and processing of data. The device needs to be rugged and able to last a school day in terms of intermittent use. We require all pupils to have a laptop, preferably not more than 3 years old.

In order to meet the above requirements a compact computer with excellent battery life and a solid state disk drive (SSD) would do just fine.

Basically, any Windows 10 or above laptop that meets the above requirements (connectivity, ruggedness, battery life) would suffice. If your child already has a laptop, please do not purchase a new one. Please be aware that while Apple, and Chrome devices can perform many of the same functions, they are particularly limited in programming and Office applications that students may require in senior grades, depending on their subject choice.

All computers will remain the responsibility of the pupil and their parents for all eventualities such as damage, repairs, safety, software and insurance.



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