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DSC Laptop Ownership Q&A

Does the student own the Laptop? – No

The parent or guardian making the purchase on behalf of the student owns the laptop. This means that all decisions related to the operation of the laptop at home, including time of day, hours of usage, playing games, downloading music, watching videos and engaging in social media discussions online are decisions and agreements made between parent and son or daughter.

Is this program mandatory/compulsory? - No

The School's Laptop Purchase Program is run by Helix Distribution Limited. This program is not mandatory. However, all DSC students enrolled in grades 4 to 12 since September 2015 must attend classes with a laptop. The laptop may be purchased offsite.

Recommendation – We strongly recommend families purchase the laptop through the School's Laptop Ownership Program. These laptops are bundled with special warranties, onsite support and some of the mandatory software. The School's IT Department can offer assistance with these laptops and liaison between the vendors on warranty issues.

What are the advantages of purchasing through the Laptop Ownership Program?

There are many advantages of purchasing a laptop through the Laptop Ownership Program. These include:

- On-campus next business day service for hardware issues
- Built in accidental damage protection
- Laptop Loan Program allows you to borrow a laptop while yours is out for repair
- Onsite support by the School's IT Department
- Induction Program with ICT Educational Specialists
- Possibility of bundling software and accessories

What laptops are available through the School's Laptop Ownership Program?

Helix Distribution Limited offers 2 models from Lenovo for purchase.

Can I purchase a laptop from another source/company? – Yes

Please refer to the minimum specification before purchase. Also, please make a plan for continued access to a laptop while your laptop is out for repair. Laptops purchased outside of the program cannot be fixed on campus.

Can I attend classes if I do not have a laptop? - No

All students in grades 4 to 12 will be required to have a laptop for in-class usage. Students who purchase outside of the School's program need to make arrangements for a back-up laptop when their main unit has been sent to the manufactory for repair.

When is the deadline for having a computer? – before 1st day of enrollment

Students who wish to take advantage of the School's program must place an order before their enrollment date to ensure the laptop is ready for first day of class.

Can I attend classes without a laptop?- No

Laptops are used on a daily basis and all students in grades 4 to 12 are expected to attend classes with a laptop. Students who repeatedly attend classes without the necessary resources will be sent to the Head Teacher.

Can I purchase a laptop from a DSC alumnus? - Yes

Yes, families can purchase a laptop from a DSC alumnus. However, many of the laptops have now past the 3-years warranty period. Families should ensure the laptop is under warranty and has a good battery.

Is there any software I must have? Yes

All laptops must have MS Office 2010 or higher. Students may sign-in to office.com with their school email to install Office 365. All laptops must also have an anti-virus program. In addition to these basic requirements, there are course specific software for secondary section classes. Please refer to the DSCS List of Consumables and Resources.

Can I leave my laptop at School? - No

We strongly encourage students to take the laptop home so it can be used to complete assignments and for other personal research needs. Laptops must never be left in a school locker/classroom over night or during school holidays. Laptops should also not be left unattended in the hallways or on the courtyard.

What happens if I drop and smash my laptop? – Bring it to IT

The laptops purchased through the program offered by Helix have a built in Accidental Damage Protection. Students who purchased through the Helix program, and whose laptops are broken accidentally may bring it to the IT Department for assistance in arranging for the repair. The school will loan a student a laptop while it is being repaired.

Can I purchase more than 1 laptop? - No

Students can only purchase one laptop per Academic Year.

What happens if my laptop is stolen or lost?

A police report should be made. A copy of the police report will be required when placing an order for a replacement unit. Families should consider checking with their home insurance provider to see if your laptop is covered.

Can I have games and songs on the Laptop? - Yes

The laptop is personally owned by the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student. The installation of games and music on the laptop therefore is a family decision. The School fully supports the rights of copyright owners and strongly urges families to keep this in mind when making decisions about computers and copyright issues.

Do I need to tell the School if I plan to use my own laptop? – No

Who will check to ensure I have a laptop?

Teachers will check to ensure students have the appropriate tools for in-class activities. Students who repeatedly come to class without a laptop will be sent to see the Head Teacher.

Will the laptop be used enough in grades 4, 5 and 6 classes?

Laptops will be used daily in grades 4 to 6. Teachers will let students know if there is a day they can leave the laptop at home.

Can I also bring other devices to class? – Yes

Yes, students can bring other devices to class but they must also have a laptop.