

# **Fannin County School** **System**

## **Chromebook** **Information and Procedures**

# Introduction

Learning in the 21st century is all about connecting, collaborating, and creating. Students in Fannin County need to have access to technology that not only connects them with the world, but allows them to create and collaborate as they learn. Allowing students to have their own device will allow them to access resources when they need it; access won't be dictated by the classroom walls or time of the school day. Personal devices provide a high level of differentiation as they provide a platform for personalized learning. Students will have ownership of learning as the device allows them to manage and engage in the content in ways that are not possible with standard books, paper, and pencils. Having access to a computer establishes a connection between students and curriculum materials that naturally makes accommodations for students in ways that traditional course materials cannot. Teachers will be able to help students develop higher order thinking skills through active engagement, collaboration, and immersion in real world scenarios that can only be achieved in 1:1 environments. Fannin's mission statement is: Developing young futures, learning for tomorrow, today. We want our students to be ready for their next step in life, whether it is college, technical school, or the workforce. It is critical that they have access to the tools of the 21st century in order to accomplish the mission of the Fannin County School System.

## What is a Chromebook?

A Chromebook is a laptop device that operates on Google's Chrome operating system. All applications run through the Internet, not through the hard drive of the computer. The Chromebook is an efficient and cost effective way to get things done in and out of the classroom. Students have a Google account which allows them to use Google applications including Gmail, Google Calendar, Google Drive, Google Classroom, Google Docs, Google Sheets, Google Slides, and Google Forms. Most of the applications and documents are housed in the cloud within Google Drive. All applications and use of the Chromebooks are managed by the Fannin County School System.

## Digital Safety

The advantages afforded by the rich, digital resources available through the Internet outweigh any disadvantage. However, it is important to remember that access is a privilege, not a right, and carries with it responsibilities for students, parents, and the school staff. Internet safety is an important concern. Fannin County Students must exercise safe and responsible Internet use.

Chromebooks and other devices are used as tools for research and education and, like any other school property, must be used for the educational purposes for which they are intended. The distribution of a Chromebook to each student is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked at any time for inappropriate conduct.

Every student that is given a Chromebook participates in Digital Citizenship Lessons throughout the school year.

The Fannin County School System will utilize filtering software or other technologies to prevent students from accessing visual depictions web material that is (i) obscene, (ii) child pornography, or (iii) harmful to minors that complies with CIPA- The Child Internet Protection ACT. The school will also monitor the online activities of students, through direct observation and/or technical means, to ensure that the students are not accessing such depictions or any other materials which are inappropriate for minors.

Despite the best efforts of supervision and Internet filtering, all users and their parents/guardians are advised that access to the electronic network may include the potential for access to materials inappropriate for school-aged students. Every user must take responsibility for his or her use of the network and Internet and avoid these sites.

In using the network and Internet, users should not reveal personal information including names, home address, telephone number, school name, location, etc. Users should never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone "met" on the Internet without a parent's permission. Students are to identify themselves only by their first name and/or student number.

## Student and Parent Responsibilities

The use of the mobile computing device is a privilege as the Chromebook is still the property of Fannin County School System.

### Students are expected to do the following

- Bring a **fully charged** Chromebook to school EACH day. The Chromebook should be treated as a textbook and other school supplies.
- If the Chromebook is not brought to school or it is not charged, the student must do all assigned work on paper, rather than a Chromebook. If an assignment is required to be turned in electronically, the student will have to re-create the work on their Chromebook as homework.
- The classroom teacher will advise students on device usage in each class. Chromebooks may not be used in every class daily. Students will respect teachers instructions on usage of the Chromebooks.
- Sound must be muted at all times unless the teacher states differently and/or headphones/earbuds are used. Students will supply their own set of earbuds to use at school.
- Students should NEVER share their Chromebook or charger with another student.
- Chromebooks will not be used to take pictures or video unless the teacher has given you permission to do so.
- The device does not come with a mouse; however, if you wish to use one with the Chromebook, you may purchase one.
- Students must follow the Fannin County School System's Internet Acceptable Use Policy.

### Student Activities Strictly Prohibited

- Illegal installation or transmission of copyrighted materials
- Any action that violates existing Board policy or public law
- Use of chat rooms, sites selling term papers, book reports and other forms of student work
- Spamming - sending mass or inappropriate emails
- Gaining access to other student's accounts, files, and/or data
- Use of the school's Internet for financial or commercial gain or for any illegal activity
- Students are not allowed to give out personal information, for any reason, over the Internet unless directed by the teacher for educational purposes. This includes, but is not limited to, setting up Internet accounts including those necessary for chat rooms, email, etc.
- Participation in credit card fraud, electronic forgery or other forms of illegal behavior
- Vandalism (any malicious attempt to harm or destroy hardware, software, or data, including but not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses or computer programs that can infiltrate computer systems and/or damage software components) of school equipment
- Transmission or accessing materials that are obscene, offensive, threatening or otherwise

The Fannin County School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, creed, or disability in admission to its programs, services, and activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of operations. This also includes but is not limited to additions, modifications, or alterations to the physical plan of any school facility.

intended to harass or demean recipients

- Bypassing the Fannin County School Content Filter through a web proxy or other means

### **Parent Responsibilities**

- Accept responsibility for your student's use of the Chromebook, Internet, and email at home.
- Be aware and discuss legal and academic expectations regarding the use of the Internet and email at home.
- Assist your student with making sure the Chromebook is charged and ready for the next school day.
- Assist your student with making sure the Chromebook is brought to school each day.
- Supervise the safe storage of the Chromebook at home.

### **Legal Propriety**

- Comply with trademark and copyright laws and all license agreements. Ignorance of the law is not immunity. If you are unsure, ask a teacher or parent.
- Plagiarism is a violation of rules listed in the FCHS and FCMS school handbooks. Give credit to all sources used, whether quoted or summarized. This includes all forms of media on the Internet, including graphics, movies, music, and text.
- Use or possession of hacking software is strictly prohibited and violators will be subject to the discipline outlined in the Fannin County Schools Student Code of Conduct. Violation of applicable state and/or federal laws will result in criminal prosecution or disciplinary actions by Fannin County High School and Fannin County Middle School.

### **Content Filter on Chromebook/Security/Privacy**

Chromebooks will be set up with safety content filters at school with the Fannin County Content Filter in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act. Blocks are placed on the device for certain categories of web content. Filters are NOT 100% accurate. While the student is using the device away from school, parents should monitor their students online activity and usage outside of school. Chromebooks can only be logged into by using a Fannin School account. Students should never leave their Chromebook unsupervised during the school day, at any after school activities, or at home. The device should not be left in your vehicle for any length of time.

Students should have NO expectations of confidentiality or privacy with respect to any usage of the Chromebook, regardless of whether that use is for school related or personal purposes, other than as specifically provided by law.

Fannin County School System may, without prior notice or consent, login to, supervise, access, view, monitor, and record use of a student's Chromebook at any time for any reason related to the operation of the school. By using the Chromebook, students agree to such access, monitoring, and recording of their use.

Teachers, school administrators, and the Fannin County School Technology department will use monitoring software that allows them to view the screens and activity on the student Chromebooks.

## How to Care for your Chromebook

Students are responsible for the care and upkeep of their Chromebook. Below are a few guidelines to follow:

- Use care when opening and closing your Chromebook by grasping the center of the lid.
- Avoid putting anything heavy on the lid of the Chromebook and make sure it is closed before putting it in your bag.
- Avoid leaving any school supplies including pencils, pens, papers, or earbuds inside the Chromebook when you close it.
- When plugging and unplugging the charger, be gentle and do not pull on it.
- Do not stretch the charger across an area causing a tripping hazard as this could also cause the Chromebook to fall to the ground.
- Never leave the Chromebook unattended. You should keep it with you at all times while at school.
- It is not recommended to place the Chromebook on the floor, in the seat of a desk, on your bed, etc where the device can be sat or stepped on.
- Keep food and drinks away from the device.
- Do not allow the Chromebook to get wet.
- Keep the Chromebook out of extreme weather such as rain and temperature change.
- Do not leave the Chromebook in your vehicle.

## Damaged Chromebooks

In the event your chromebook becomes damaged, you must immediately notify your media specialist(see procedures below). If your Chromebook is not working properly or for some reason has an issue unrelated to misuse, the School System will handle the repair of the device.

If one of the following has occurred **you** will be responsible for the repairs or replacement:

- theft, burglary, or robbery of the Chromebook
- accidental loss of the Chromebook
- intentional loss or damage to the Chromebook due to negligence
- illegal use or fraud of the Chromebook
- dishonest acts including selling the Chromebook
- damage, corrosion, or rust due to liquids or foods coming in contact with the Chromebook
- Damage to the Chromebook due to changes in humidity or temperature
- insect or animal damage to the Chromebook
- any other use the school system deems inappropriate

## Lost/Stolen Chromebooks

If the Chromebook is lost/stolen, a police report must be filed with the School Resource Officer. Immediately contact the Media Specialist and complete a lost/stolen Chromebook Form. The Chromebook will be completely shut down through the technology department so it is unusable by anyone. The cost of the Chromebook is prorated based on age (see prorated scale). This will be

charged to the student/parents for the device. Students will be given a loaner for one week after a lost/Stolen Chromebook has been reported. During that week the student must pay the replacement fee and return the loaner before a new Chromebook will be assigned.

- **FEES for Chromebooks Repairs for accidental damage:**
  - Screen: \$25
  - Keyboard: \$25
  - Charger: \$20
  - Case: \$15
  
- **Prorated Replacement Fees for lost devices or extensive damage:**
  - Replacement Costs based on the date the district purchased the device.
  - SY 2025/2026: \$100.00
  - SY 2024/2025: \$75.00
  - SY 2023/2024 \$50.00
  - SY 2022/2023 \$25.00

### **Procedure for Chromebook repairs or support**

No repairs are to be made by the student, parent, or outside source. If this happens, this could result in the full payment of the Chromebook. Chromebooks should be returned to the library or to the Technology Specialist for repairs.

Chromebooks that require repair will be turned into the media center. Upon Chromebooks being turned in for repair or support, a loaner device will be given to the student for use until the student's Chromebook is repaired and returned to the student. The student will check out the loaner device through the media center. The loaner device will act as the original device and can be taken home until the repairs are made to the student's Chromebook. A designated administrator will provide the student with a letter that outlines the fees that must be paid prior to the Chromebook being repaired. Students will be notified when their Chromebook is ready for pickup after repairs. The loaner device must be returned at the time the repaired Chromebook is paid for (if applicable) and picked up.

### **Disciplinary Actions**

Students are responsible for bringing their Chromebook to school each day fully charged and securing it daily. If the student fails to bring their Chromebook to school or it is not charged, the student will be expected to produce work in written format. Disciplinary action can be taken for failure to comply. Students can receive disciplinary action for any of the following;

The Fannin County School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, creed, or disability in admission to its programs, services, and activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of operations. This also includes but is not limited to additions, modifications, or alterations to the physical plan of any school facility.

- Failure to bring the Chromebook to school
- Failure to have the Chromebook charged and ready for class
- Leaving device unsupervised
- Repeated damage to the Chromebook
- Damage inflicted on the Chromebook that doesn't warrant immediate administrative action (misuse over time that causes damage)
- Failure to return loaner device

### **Personalization of your Chromebook**

The Chromebook checked out to each student will be labeled with a library bar-code label and a technology department label. Those labels are NOT to be removed or covered under any circumstance. Students may personalize their Chromebook; however, all personalization done must be removable and not permanent. A fee will be incurred if there is permanent damage due to the student's personalization of their device. The Chromebook must be returned in original condition at the end of the school year.

### **Returning the Chromebooks**

Chromebooks and chargers will be returned to the media center at the end of the school year. If a student withdraws, is expelled, or attends Mountain Innovation Program the device must be returned before leaving. If the device is not returned to the media center, a police report will be filed and a lost fee will be charged to the student/parents based on the prorated replacement fee.

### **Other Useful Information**

- Students will need earbuds to use with the Chromebooks. Earbuds should be purchased as a school supply just like paper, pencils, etc.
- If a student prefers to use a mouse, students will need to purchase a USB mouse. These will not be provided for students.
- Chromebook cases are recommended to help protect the Chromebook and allow for easy identification. A case has been provided for each chromebook. When the Chromebook is not in use, it is recommended it be placed in the case.
- Students may only download pre-approved Chrome Extensions and Apps to their school Google account. Students may access their school Google account from anywhere that has an Internet connection.
- Fannin County Schools does provide WiFi; however, it makes no guarantee that the network will be up and running 100% of the time. In the rare case that the network is down, the school will not be responsible for lost or missing data.
- Students are allowed to purchase vinyl stickers or covers that can be placed on the Chromebook to personalize it. However, no permanent markings or etchings are allowed.

## WiFi Access at home and throughout Fannin

Students may access the Internet at home by using a wireless connection. The Chromebook is configured to use Fannin County School Internet Content Filter. While Internet content filters are in place for the protection of Fannin County Schools, no filter program provides 100% protection. Monitoring and supervision by teachers and parents are still very important.

If you do not have WiFi access at home, there are many businesses and locations throughout Fannin County that have free WiFi access. Each school has hotspots available for checkout on a short and long term basis. Please see the Media Specialist to check one out if needed.

There is an online sync extension in Chrome that allows students to work on documents without internet connection. The Documents will sync with their account when back on an internet connection. You may refer to this article on how to use Google Docs Online extension: [Online Sync](#).

## Requirements for Chromebook Delivery

1. **Student and Parent must sign the Internet Acceptable Use Guidelines (completed during enrollment)**
2. **Student and Parent must sign a Chromebook Home Use Contract**

## Google Workspace and Tools Notification

At the Fannin County School System, we use Google Workspace for Education. Google Workspace for Education is a set of education productivity tools from Google including Gmail, Calendar, Docs, Classroom, and more used by tens of millions of students and teachers around the world. In the Fannin County School System, students will use their Google accounts to complete assignments, communicate with their teachers, sign into their Chromebooks, and learn 21st century digital citizenship skills.

This notice describes the personal information we provide to Google for these accounts and how Google collects, uses, and discloses personal information from students in connection with these accounts. Using their Google Workspace for Education accounts, students may access and use the following "Core Services" offered by Google (described at [https://workspace.google.com/terms/user\\_features.html](https://workspace.google.com/terms/user_features.html)):

Gmail (Grades K-7 can only communicate internally)

Updated 05/21/25

Calendar

Chrome Sync

Classroom

Cloud Search

Contacts

Docs, Sheets, Slides, Forms

Drive

Google Chat, Google Meet,

Jamboard

Keep

Sites

Vault

In addition, we also allow access to certain other Google services with their G Suite for Education accounts. Specifically, your child may have access to the following "Additional Services":

Applied Digital Skills

Google Books

Google Bookmarks

Google Cloud Print

Google Earth

Google Maps

Google My Maps

Google News

Google Public Data Search

Google Scholar

Google Search and Assistant

Science Journal

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Tour Creator

Youtube (restricted search settings applied)

Google provides information about the information it collects, as well as how it uses and discloses the information it collects from Google Workspace for Education accounts in its Google Workspace for Education Privacy Notice. You can read that notice online at [https://workspace.google.com/terms/education\\_privacy.html](https://workspace.google.com/terms/education_privacy.html) You should review this information in its entirety, but below are answers to some common questions:

### **What personal information does Google collect?**

When creating a student account, the FCSS may provide Google with certain personal information about the student, including, for example, a name, email address, and password. Google may also collect personal information directly from students, such as telephone numbers for account recovery or a profile photo added to the Google Workspace for Education account.

When a student uses Google services, Google also collects information based on the use of those services. This includes:

- device information, such as the hardware model, operating system version, unique device identifiers, and mobile network information including phone number;
- log information, including details of how a user used Google services, device event information, and the user's Internet protocol (IP) address;
- location information, as determined by various technologies including IP address, GPS, and other sensors;
- unique application numbers, such as application version number; and
- cookies or similar technologies which are used to collect and store information about a browser or device, such as preferred language and other settings.

### **How does Google use this information?**

In Google Workspace for Education Core Services, Google uses student personal information to provide, maintain, and protect the services. Google does not serve ads in the Core Services or use personal information collected in the Core Services for advertising purposes.

In Google Additional Services, Google uses the information collected from all Additional Services to provide, maintain, protect and improve them, to develop new ones, and to protect Google and its users. Google may also use this information to offer tailored content, such as more relevant search results. Google may combine personal information from one service with information, including personal information, from other Google services.

### **Does Google use student personal information for users in K-12 schools to target advertising?**

No. For Google Workspace for Education users in primary and secondary (K-12) schools, Google does not use any user personal information (or any information associated with a Google Workspace for Education Account) to target ads, whether in Core Services or in other Additional

Services accessed while using an Google Workspace for Education account.

### **Can my child share information with others using the G Suite for Education account?**

We may allow students to access Google services such as Google Docs and Sites, which include features where users can share information with others or publicly. When users share information publicly, it may be indexable by search engines, including Google.

### **Will Google disclose my child's personal information?**

Google will not share personal information with companies, organizations and individuals outside of Google unless one of the following circumstances applies:

- With parental or guardian consent. Google will share personal information with companies, organizations or individuals outside of Google when it has parents' consent (for users below the age of consent), which may be obtained through Google Workspace for Education schools.
- With the Fannin County School System. Google Workspace for Education accounts, because they are school-managed accounts, give administrators access to information stored in them.
- For external processing. Google may provide personal information to ailiates or other trusted businesses or persons to process it for Google, based on Google's instructions and in compliance with the Google Workspace for Education privacy notice and any other appropriate confidentiality and security measures.
- For legal reasons. Google will share personal information with companies, organizations or individuals outside of Google if it has a good-faith belief that access, use, preservation or disclosure of the information is reasonably necessary to:
  - meet any applicable law, regulation, legal process or enforceable governmental request.
  - enforce applicable Terms of Service, including investigation of potential violations.
  - detect, prevent, or otherwise address fraud, security or technical issues.
  - protect against harm to the rights, property or safety of Google, Google users or the public as required or permitted by law.
- Google also shares non-personal information -- such as trends about the use of its services -- publicly and with its partners.

### **What choices do I have as a parent or guardian?**

First, you can consent to the collection and use of your child's information by Google. If you don't provide your consent, we will not create a G Suite for Education account for your child, and Google will not collect or use your child's information as described in this notice.

If you consent to your child's use of G Suite for Education, you can access or request deletion of your child's G Suite for Education account by contacting the Director of Communications and Information Services, Gini Tipton at [gtipton@fannin.k12.ga.us](mailto:gtipton@fannin.k12.ga.us) or 706-258-2791. If you wish to stop any further collection or use of your child's information, you can request that we use the service controls available to limit your child's access to features or services, or delete your child's

account entirely. You and your child can also visit <https://myaccount.google.com> while signed in to the G Suite for Education account to view and manage the personal information and settings of the account.

**What if I have more questions or would like to read further?**

If you have questions about our use of Google's G Suite for Education accounts or the choices available to you, please contact [insert contact information for the school administrator]. If you want to learn more about how Google collects, uses, and discloses personal information to provide services to us, please review the G Suite for Education Privacy Center, the G Suite for Education Privacy Notice, and the Google Privacy Policy.

The Core G Suite for Education services are provided to us under Google's Apps for Education agreement.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Scott Mathis, Director of Technology & Cybersecurity

Email: [smathis@fannin.k12.ga.us](mailto:smathis@fannin.k12.ga.us)

Phone: 706-258-2791 X 4