

# Digital Education Revolution - NSW

## Information for parents and carers

### Learning in the present: Preparing for the future

#### Year 9 laptops

From Semester 2 2009 all Year 9 students in NSW government schools will receive a Lenovo laptop. This has been funded by the National Secondary School's Computer Fund which is part of the Federal Government's Digital Education Revolution.



All laptops will come with Microsoft and Adobe software, giving NSW students and teachers access to the largest and most comprehensive distribution of software in any education system worldwide.

The Department of Education and Training is also investing in wireless networking and technical support for all secondary schools as well as professional learning for teachers.

The Digital Education Revolution is part of a global movement towards providing every student with a wireless enabled computer. Studies where each student has access to wireless computing show:

- increased student motivation, engagement, interest, organisation and self directed learning.
- improved academic achievements and student attitudes and work habits.
- Improvements in information and communication skills.

#### Requirements

Laptops allow students to learn anytime, anywhere. The laptop weighs just over 1kg and fits easily into a school bag. To increase security, students will be asked to keep their laptops out of sight when travelling to and from school.

Students will be able to use the laptop for school work when they are at home. They will also be able to access the Internet provided there is Internet service at home.

Students must charge their laptop overnight to ensure it is ready for each school day.

Students may keep the laptop if they complete Year 12. If a student leaves school prior to completing Year 12 or moves to a non-government school, interstate or overseas, the laptop must be returned to the school.

The school will provide information regarding requirements, ownership, damage or loss of laptops, laptop care and acceptable computer and Internet use. The school can also provide advice on best academic use of the laptop, safe Internet use, copyright, plagiarism and ergonomics.



## Laptop User Charter

Parents or carers and students will be asked to return a signed *Laptop User Charter* before being issued with a laptop for home use.

This charter must be signed by the student and by a parent or carer to certify that they agree to comply with the conditions in the *Laptop User Charter*.

They will also certify that they understand that non compliance may result in recall of the laptop or loss of access for home use or other disciplinary action consistent with Department of Education and Training policies.



The *Laptop User Charter* states that:

- All laptops and batteries are covered by a manufacturer's warranty. The warranty covers manufacturer's defects and normal use of the laptop. It does not cover negligence, abuse or malicious damage. Any problems, vandalism, damage, loss or theft of the laptop must be reported immediately to the school.
- In the case of suspected theft a police report must be made by the family and an event number provided to the school.
- In the case of loss or accidental damage a witnessed statutory declaration signed by a parent/ carer should be provided.
- If a laptop is damaged or lost by neglect, abuse or by a malicious act, the Principal will determine whether replacement is appropriate and whether or not the student retains access to a laptop for home use.

- Students will be required to replace lost or damaged chargers.
- When a laptop is replaced it is replaced with one of a similar age.

The student is responsible for following the Online Communication Services: Acceptable Usage for School Students policy. This includes cyber safety and correct online behaviour.

Go to:

<https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/policiesinter/category.do?level=Schools>

Then click the link to *Internet and Online Communications Services (Students)*

Please contact your school if you have any inquiries.

## Telephone Interpreter Service

If you would like further information and require assistance in contacting the Principal of the school please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on telephone 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The operator will call the Principal and the interpreter will stay on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

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Digital Education Revolution Program Office

NSW Department of Education & Training