



Dear Parents and Students,

Valor middle school students are now required to have their own Chromebooks, which will be used on campus and at home. Incorporation of Chromebooks has been an invaluable addition to our middle school program over the past few years. We have taken advantage of this technology to enhance classroom instruction as well as to equip students for successful use of technology in high school, college, and in their eventual professional careers. Because our current stock of Chromebooks is now three years old and is showing its age (both in appearance and operation), we are moving to a family-owned Chromebook model. This will allow students to have up-to-date Chromebooks, specifically selected by their families to best meet their needs. Also, this will allow students to have access to their Chromebooks both at school and at home.

WHY CHROMEBOOKS?

There are several reasons why we have chosen to work with Chromebooks as opposed to other technology alternatives:

- Chromebooks are inexpensive relative to other similar technology, making them more affordable for families.
- Chromebooks are optimized for supporting Google Classroom and other Google Tools, which are platforms we have found to be especially useful to support our curriculum and instruction.
- The Chromebook operating system is fast and reliable.
- All work is saved on the Cloud, so data/assignments will not be lost even if a Chromebook is inoperable or lost.
- Chromebooks have long battery-life and are portable/lightweight.
- Unlike tablets, Chromebooks have built-in keyboards, which make them especially conducive to academic work, typing essays, etc.



CHROMEBOOK SETUP

Chromebooks will be managed by Valor Christian Academy while students are enrolled. This device management includes the following:

- All local content and settings will be reset to factory settings during the initial setup under Valor's Google Admin management console.
- GoGuardian will be installed upon enrollment in Valor's Google Admin. GoGuardian is a software program that allows teachers and admin to oversee student's chromebook usage while in the classroom and will alert teachers and admin if students access inappropriate sites while using the chromebook.
- Students are responsible for any damage, loss, or theft of their Chromebook. Issues related directly to curriculum and settings will be addressed by VCA.

- All VCA technology policies apply to Chromebook use, whether at school, home, or anywhere else the Chromebook is used while the student is enrolled at VCA. Please see the Middle School Family Handbook for VCA's technology policy.

REQUIRED SPECS

- Whether new or pre-owned, Chromebooks must be able to receive automatic updates through the student's 8th grade graduation date. The Automatic Update Expiration (AUE) date can be found based on the model you are purchasing [here](#).
- Suggested Specs:
 - Built-in Wi-Fi, microphone and headphone port
 - 4 GB (or more) of RAM
 - 11.6 inch screen

SUGGESTED CHROMEBOOK MODELS

- Samsung Chromebook 4
- Acer Chromebook Spin 311
- Lenovo Flex 3
- HP Chromebook 11 G9 EE

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding your Chromebook purchase or Valor's Chromebook policy, and we will be glad to help.

Sincerely,

Valor Christian Academy

(310) 798-5181

