



St. Nicholas Catholic School

109 Georgian Way, Sherwood Park, Alberta T8A 3K9 Phone: 780-467-3633 Fax: 780-467-1584



June 2nd, 2023

One to One Technology program in EICS for 2023-24

At Elk Island Catholic Schools (EICS), our mission is to inspire success, confidence and hope in each student. As leaders in the use of technology, we encourage creative and innovative learning. Today's students are already technology leaders. This generation of students we call Gen Z simply hasn't known a time without the device. They are also likely to be more tech-savvy than other generations. They want to take the technology they use in their daily lives and make it a part of their classroom experience. Research tells us that if we bring technology into their learning experiences, we will increase engagement which leads to improved student success.

EICS has implemented One-to-One in grades 4 to 12, which means students can bring their own device to school as another **tool** for educational purposes. In the classroom, students are expected to use their device responsibly, and only with the permission and facilitation of the teacher or other staff members. We know, technology alone will not improve learning— when combined with effective teaching strategies to support active thinking about the information and executing problem-solving skills, amazing learning can happen.

Some advice when setting up a new device:

- A second Gmail account is **not** necessary and **not** recommended.
- Students will use their **school Gmail account**, (Student #)@EICS.ab.ca to set up their new device as this will better allow the device to meet our EICS network security.
- A protective carrying case is a good idea to protect the device from accidental falls
- It **not** necessary or advisable to set up distractors like theme pages, cursor icons, or game icons
- It is important to remember the device is another **tool** for learning and **not a toy**



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Please take some time to thoroughly review all the information provided.

One-To-One Frequently Asked Questions

What devices will be supported?

We recommend the Chromebook as the ideal device due to price, battery life, fast startup and usability. Also be careful when choosing **older** Chrome devices from siblings or friends, as these devices cannot receive updates indefinitely to enable new OS and browser features which means the Chrome devices can not function properly to support your child's technology learning experience. Here are two links to [help explain what Auto Update Expiration policy & how to check when your Chromebook updates will stop](#) & [approved ChromeOS devices](#).

What are the minimum requirements for a device?

A device brought for learning should meet the following requirements:

★ Internet-ready (preferably with the Chrome browser) ★ Ability to type ★ Battery life of a full school day (6 hours) ★ Labelled for identification on the device and **charger cord**★ Google Apps For Education (GAPE) is friendly if it's a handheld device.

This means it has the following Google apps:

- Google Drive
- Gmail
- Google Docs
- Google Slides
- Google Sheets
- Google Classroom

Is there anything else you recommend the device to have?

Yes. It is recommended that the device has a minimum screen size of 7 inches as well as a physical keyboard for ease of use.



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My child does not have a device to bring to school. Will they be penalized or miss out on instruction?

No, it's not mandatory that you bring a device to use, even if you do own one. Technology is another tool that students can use that will enhance their learning by making it more personalized and authentic.

Who is responsible for maintaining the device?

Students are responsible for the management and maintenance of their own device.

Will my child be able to charge their device at school during the day?

Students will be expected to bring their device fully charged for the school day. Due to the number of students, we cannot reasonably expect to provide charging facilities in school for the student devices.

Where can students use their device?

Students will be allowed to use their device in the classroom and throughout the school to support their learning and at the discretion & support of the teacher.

My child is bringing a device to school for instructional purposes. Will they have access to things they normally do with district equipment?

Your child will have access to any of the web-based software the school currently uses (Google Apps For Education, library search tools, Mathletics, Reading Theory, Get Epic, etc).

How will my son's/daughter's device be used in the classroom?

Students will engage in an integrated curriculum, access information and apply it to solve authentic problems. For more information please contact your child's teacher.

What if my child's device is stolen or damaged? What recourse can I take?

Students bringing their own device to school do so at their own risk, just like any other personal item. The school will not be held responsible if an electronic device or other item is lost, stolen or misplaced. We suggest that you label the device in some way as to identify it if needed. As well, some devices have a device locator and it is recommended that you enable this feature if possible.

Is it required that my child use the school wireless network? Can they use their own



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data service?

For security reasons, students with their own device need to use the school's POD wireless network. You own your device, but the network you're using belongs to the school and internet access will be filtered.

My child cannot get their device to connect to the network. Can someone from EICS help?

EICS will certainly be able to provide support to the network in each of our schools. However, due to the sheer volume and different technology options, we will not be providing IT support on personal devices.

As a parent, am I held accountable for the "Responsible Use Agreement for Technology" to be signed even though this is their personal device?

Yes, in order for your child to use their personal device in the school's learning environment you must have both the Responsible Use Agreement and the One-To-One User Agreement signed.

Chromebook Purchase to Own

To purchase a device, it is at your choice of store such as Staples, Best Buy, Costco, Walmart, London Drugs etc.

If you have any further questions, we invite you to contact the school.

St. Nicholas Administration Team,

Peter Rachmistruk peterr@eics.ab.ca and Barb Rafuse barbr@eics.ab.ca