



Loreto Secondary School Clonmel

Coleville Road, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

Thursday 22nd October 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

We have had a number of queries regarding the TY devices and we want to address these to everyone so that you are all clear on what it is we are proposing for your TY student. I hope the following points will clarify things sufficiently for you.

1. The TY fee of €525 was broken into 3 parts
 - €250 – the TY year and normal events
 - €200 – the TY overnight trip
 - €75 – school expenses

Following feedback from parents and students, we have decided to use the €200 from the main trip as part funding of an individual student device. Students and teachers both saw great benefit to students having their own devices in school and at home during the pilot program that we ran over the last 6 weeks.

The TY's will still have an extensive range of activities, but due to current public health advice, it is felt that no overnight trip will happen this school year.

2. When we sent out the initial survey two weeks ago, we were looking at a different device. The cheaper model had no touch screen, smaller memory, shorter battery life and did not support windows 10 pro. From extensive research we concluded that it would not serve the student needs over the next three years.

The exact model of the device we are now looking at is:

Dell Latitude 3190 2in1

Intel Celeron N4120 (Quad Core, up to 2.6GHz, 4M Cache, 6W) 11.6HD WVA 16:9 (1366 x 768)

Touch with Corning Gorilla Glass NBT Camera & Microphone

4GB 2400MHz DDR4 64GB eMMC Hard Drive

65 Watt AC Adaptor

Win10 Pro 64bit Nat'l Aca Val+. K12 EDU only

3 Year On-Site Support

This is sourced from our IT partner Wriggle and will be supported by them. We have acquired these devices at a cost of €450 and we have secured funding to be in a position to supply them to TY's at €350 in order to ensure the completion of the TY programme.

This tablet runs the Microsoft Windows 10 pro version which allows for school control. An ordinary Windows 10 (without pro) will not. Once the student leaves the school their school account will be deleted and they can then use the tablet any way they wish. It will have the same functionality as any tablet they might buy in shop. At that point the school will have no control over it anymore. It will still run Windows 10 but the user will have to buy their own licence for this (students of our school currently get this for free as the school pays an annual licence for all staff and students).

3. Following the feedback from the original survey the options we are now presenting to the parents are:
 - Rent the device for the year (using the €200 already collected for the overnight trip) and then buy the tablet at the end of the year for €150. Total cost €350.

- Rent the device for the year (using the €200 already collected for the overnight trip) and then return the tablet **in good working order** to the school in May 2021. Total cost €200.
 - Buy the device outright now, if you have already paid the €200 for the trip then this will cost €150 now. Total cost €350.
 - There is also the option to speak to the school about organising a payment plan, if you have not already paid the full TY fee, to arrange this payment.
 - The final option is not to take up the offer of a device for your TY student. If full fees have already been paid you will be refunded €200 at the end of the school year.
4. Due to the lack of security and control that the school would have over the technology the Board of Management made the decision not to allow any student to bring their own device into the school. The school would have no control over the content that would be on these tablets and what may be accessed through them. This was tried in various schools over the last 10 years and overall, it was seen as a failure. As a result, the only device we can allow students to use in the school is one that is bought through the school and set up in our domain

Once it is being used in the school it will be run from and be controlled in the background through the schools Microsoft Office 365 licence and intune system. This will control and limit what apps can be downloaded onto it and deleted from it by the user. For example, if they try to download a game from the app store, they will be unable and if they delete an educational app then it will redownload automatically the next day.

We have started discussions and research into whether 5th year students next year will be using devices in school or not. All our teachers are fully conversant with Microsoft Teams and One Note and are currently using this with all year groups. This is seen as a huge benefit to students and so teachers will continue to do this into the future. At present our 5th and 6th year students do not have devices in school but are accessing their class notes and their homework online if needed. They are also posting some of their assignments into One Note and Teams so that they can be corrected online. For the first month Senior students were not allowed any books in school and even now they are permitted ONE book per subject. So, having a device at home for 5th and 6th year would be of enormous benefit to them.

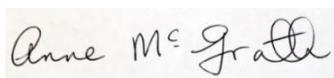
As mentioned earlier it is under consideration at present whether or not we will introduce one-to-one student devices in 5th year next year. Either way it would be a great benefit for students to have their own devices for senior cycle whether the devices are in brought to school or just used at home.

At Junior Cycle parents have opted to put their student devices on their house insurance or alternatively have taken out specific device insurance such as gadget insurance.

I hope this answers all the questions you may have had. Due to some confusion over the form we sent we will be sending a similar form for you to complete as soon as possible. Even if you completed the first one we would ask that you complete this one as well. Please find the link [here](#) for this new survey.

Best wishes to you and your daughter for a restful midterm break.

Yours faithfully,



Anne Mc Grath

Principal

HSE Advice

Further information on COVID-19 is available at: <https://www.hpsc.ie/> and <https://www.gov.ie/en/>
 Or phone **Public Health South East** at 056 7784142 or **HSE Live** at 1850 24 1850



Coronavirus COVID-19 Public Health Advice

2m
(6 feet)

Please Ensure Social Distancing

HSE **Riailtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland**



Protect yourself and others from getting sick

Wash your hands

- after coughing or sneezing
- when caring for the sick
- before and after you prepare food
- before eating
- after toilet use
- when hands are visibly dirty
- after touching cuts, blisters or any open sores
- you can use alcohol hand rub, if hands are not visibly dirty

RESIST www.hse.ie/handhygiene

HSE



How to use Face Coverings

ALWAYS CLEAN YOUR HANDS BEFORE AND AFTER WEARING A FACE COVERING

Correct Covering
 Medical masks should be reserved for health workers or patients in treatment. If you have been advised to wear a medical mask, always have the coloured side showing and the metal band at the top of your nose.

Check Your Fit
 Check that the face covering is made from a fabric that you are comfortable wearing. Check that it is easy to fit and completely covers your nose and mouth, all the way down under your chin. Tighten the laces or ties so it's snug around your face, without gaps. If there are straps, tie them high on top of the head to get a good fit. Do not touch or fidget with the face covering when it is on.

DO NOT: Wear the face covering below your nose. Leave your chin exposed. Wear it loosely with gaps on the sides. Wear it so it covers just the tip of your nose. Push it under your chin to rest on your neck.

FOLLOW THESE TIPS TO STAY SAFE:
 ALWAYS wash your hands before and after handling your face covering. ALWAYS change your face covering if it is dirty, wet or damaged. Carry unused face coverings in a sealable clear plastic bag, for example a ziplock. Carry a second unused face covering to put used face coverings in. CHILDREN should not wear face coverings. ALWAYS wash your face covering on the highest temperature for death.

Safe Removal
 Use the ties or ear loops to take the face covering off. Do not touch the front when you take it off.

Disposing Of Single-Use Mask
 Always dispose of single-use masks properly in a bin. Don't forget to wash your hands and keep social distance.

Stay safe. Protect each other.

HSE **Riailtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland**



Coronavirus COVID-19

Help prevent coronavirus

- Wash your hands
- Cover mouth if coughing or sneezing
- Avoid touching your face
- Keep surfaces clean
- Stop shaking hands and hugging
- Keep a safe distance

The virus spreads in sneeze and cough droplets, so regularly taking the above measures helps reduce the chance of it spreading.

Visit HSE.ie
 For updated factual information and advice
 Or call 1850 24 1850

Protection from coronavirus. It's in our hands.

HSE **Riailtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland**