St. Bede's Catholic College

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St Bede's Catholic College - 1:1 Device Scheme (September 2026) FAQs

At St Bede's Catholic College, we are offering a 1:1 Device Scheme for our Sixth Form students that enables our students to enhance their learning experience.

Full details about the scheme can be found on our website:
https://www.stbedescc.org/page/?title=Chromebook+Ownership+Scheme&pid=112

Below are some frequently asked questions about the scheme.

Q. Why are you running the scheme?
A. St Bede's Catholic College is always looking for ways to improve outcomes for students and provide modern, innovative access to learning resources. The use of technology and ICT is embedded across subjects with resources such as online textbooks, assessment and revision, academic papers and research, and home learning all taking place on a device.

To ensure that our students have continual and reliable access to these resources, we are offering students and parents the opportunity to buy a device through this 1:1 Device Scheme. By purchasing through the scheme, families are able to take advantage of economy of scale, discounts against the high street, a comprehensive insurance and warranty service, and spread payments across a 12 or 18 month period if preferred. Please note that the September 2026 scheme is limited to one device per student, and is only open to students who are in Year 12 or Year 13 in the 2026/2027 academic year (please note that Year 13 students are only able to purchase the device outright).

We have chosen to make Chromebook devices available to purchase through the scheme, as they are reliable, have an extremely good battery life, are robust and secure, and will last for the next 6 or 7 years which will help see your child through the next steps in their education journey beyond their time at St Bede's Catholic College.

Q. Is the device a replacement for pen and paper?
A. We don't envisage the device replacing exercise books or essay writing by hand completely, but rather as an additional tool to help make learning more accessible for our sixth form students. This might be by improving access to resources during study periods, by providing consistency when students complete learning at home or by providing the teachers and students with an additional tool to use in the classroom.

Q. Is it compulsory to purchase a device as part of this scheme?
A. No. The scheme is not compulsory although we do recommend that families seriously consider joining it. It is extremely good value, and the longevity of the devices mean that it is highly likely the device will last beyond 2033, thus covering not just their time at St Bede's but also the next step in your child's future. The scheme also allows the seamless transition between working in the classroom, study periods and at home.

Q. Who owns the device?
A. If the device is purchased outright, it is owned by the person making the purchase. However, by purchasing the device through the scheme, you are agreeing that the device is managed by St Bede's Catholic College until your child leaves at the end of Year 13. If the device is purchased on a 12 or 18 month payment plan, the device is owned by the College until the final payment is made.

Q. Will the College manage the device?
A. Yes. Purchasing a device through the scheme means that you agree for St Bede's Catholic College to manage the device. This means that the College is able to implement certain policies and restrictions to ensure the security of our network and of the devices themselves. It also means that we can deploy the required apps and extensions to the device easily and efficiently.

Managing the device will also mean that the College has access to certain data about the device, such as which version of the operating system it is running, and how the internal resources are running. We will also be able to remotely lock and wipe the device should it be lost.

Whilst the device is being used in College, your child will use our internet filters to help protect them from inappropriate or dangerous content. We recommend that all home internet connections make use of the filtering provided by your internet service provider. Further information about this can be found here:
https://www.broadbandgenie.co.uk/broadband/help/isp-web-blocking-filters

Q. What devices are available in the scheme?
A. You are allowed to purchase one device through the scheme, but we have provided the option of two Chromebook devices to choose from. The specifications are as follows:

	Acer Chromebook 514	**Acer Chromebook Plus 514**
Screen Size	14 inches	14 inches
Processor	Intel N150	AMD Ryzen 5
RAM	8GB	8GB
Storage	128GB eMMC	256GB SSD
Screen Functionality	Non-touch screen	Touch screen
Software updates	Available until June 2033	Available until June 2033

Q. How much do the devices cost?

	Outright Purchase	**12 monthly payments**	**18 monthly payments**
Acer Chromebook 514	£538.90	£46.50 per month	£30.33 per month
Acer Chromebook Plus 514	£621.85	£53.77 per month	£35.13 per month

Q. What is included in the price?
A. Included in the price is the device, management license, 3 year warranty and 2 year accidental damage insurance. There is also a small administration fee.

Q. How do I sign up for the scheme?
A. The portal can be accessed here: https://sbcc.parentportal.biz/. You will need to use the code SBCC4-4 to complete the sign up process. The portal will open on Tuesday 22 September 2026, and close on Tuesday 29 September 2026. We then expect the first payment to be taken on 1st November 2026.

Q. Why can I find the devices cheaper online or in-store?
A. The model of Chromebooks available to purchase through the scheme are available to buy from a number of retailers. However, these devices may not have as high a specification (for example the processor could be less powerful) and do not come with the extended warranty or accidental damage insurance, and are not the education version of the device (education versions are more rugged and designed for longer periods of use). The price you pay through the scheme will be cheaper when you compare like for like.

Q. I missed the deadline to join the scheme and purchase a device for my child, can I join it late?
A. We only run one scheme per year. It is likely that the College will run another scheme in the next academic year. Further information about schemes will be released to students and parents in due course.

Q. Can my child use the device at home?
A. Yes, the device can be used anywhere with an internet/wireless connection. Please note that St Bede's Catholic College does not take any responsibility for websites which are accessible when the device is used outside of the College network. We recommend that all home internet connections make use of the built in filters provided by your Internet Service Provider. Please see here for further information about filtering at home:
https://www.broadbandgenie.co.uk/broadband/help/isp-web-blocking-filters

Q. My child already has a laptop style device, can they bring this into College?
A. Yes, although this is done entirely at your own risk and any breakage or damage is not the responsibility of St Bede's Catholic College. The College will also be unable to manage the device and so your child may be asked to download or install apps or extensions recommended by their teachers. We also ask that anti-virus and anti-ransomware software is installed on any device that is brought into College - should a device be found using the network that does not have this safeguard in place, it will be blocked from accessing the network.

Q. What happens when I finish making the monthly payments?
A. When the monthly payments have finished, the device is owned by the person who signed up to the scheme. However, the device will continue to be managed by St Bede's Catholic College until your child leaves at the end of Year 13.

Q. What happens when my child leaves St Bede's Catholic College at the end of Year 13?
A. Once your child has left St Bede's, the license that allows the device to be managed will be removed (assuming that all payments have been made), and we would recommend that a factory reset takes place. This means that any restrictions and policies that are in place on the device will be lifted. At the same time, your child will need to have set up a personal Google account and downloaded any content they would like to use in the future from their school account as this will be deactivated once exam results have been published. Details about how to complete these steps will be given to your child at the appropriate time.

Q. Will there be any credit checks?
A. No. Everyone who applies to join the scheme using one of the monthly payment plans will be approved.

Q. If I sign up for monthly payments, who takes the payments?
A. The monthly payments are managed by Edde Finance and "edde Limited" is what will appear on your bank statement.

Q. What is included in the warranty and insurance policy?
A. The 3 year manufacturer's warranty covers items such as hardware failure (e.g. the screen stops working or the device battery no longer holds charge). The 2 year insurance policy covers theft, accidental damage and liquid damage. There will be no excess to pay on any insurance claim.

Q. How do I make a warranty or insurance claim?
A. This is done by contacting Edde Finance Limited. The College IT Department would be happy to help point you in the right direction.

Q. What happens if I cannot afford to join the scheme?
A. Families who qualify for financial support through the 16-19 Bursary Fund will be supported on this scheme. Full details, including the amount of support, will be given once all applications for the Bursary Fund have been completed. If you choose to pay for the device monthly, the amounts will be adjusted accordingly. If you pay for the device outright, the amount you pay will be adjusted accordingly or a refund issued if the successful bursary application is completed after the device has been purchased. Further information about the 16-19 Bursary Fund can be obtained from Mrs Barton.

For those students who do not participate in the scheme, loan devices will be available to use during study periods, and teachers will be able to use their faculty resources if they require students to use a device in their lessons.

Q. What happens if I miss a payment or can no longer afford the device?
A. If a payment is missed, Edde Finance will make contact with the family to find out why this happened and to attempt the payment again. If the family does not engage in this process or the payment is continually missed, the device will be locked and needs to be returned to the College IT Department. We would encourage any family struggling to make payments for any reason to make contact with the College so that suitable arrangements can be made for the continued participation in the scheme. If it is no longer possible for the family to make the required payments, the device will be locked and should be returned to the College IT Department.

Q. What happens if my child leaves St Bede's Catholic College before the end of their course?
A. Should your child leave St Bede's Catholic College before the end of Year 13, the family can choose to make any outstanding payments in one lump sum or return the device to the IT Department. We are unable to issue refunds for payments that have been made up to that point, or facilitate the continuation of monthly payments if your child is not a student of St Bede's Catholic College.