

Parent Information Flyer

Charleville School of Distance Education Laptop Hire Scheme



What is the SDE Laptop Hire Scheme?

The scheme offers K-12 geographically isolated SDE enrolled students the opportunity to supplement their computer and broadband subsidies by hiring a laptop device from their SDE for educational use. The parent/caregiver opts into the program with their students' respective SDE, pays a yearly fee and signs a Memorandum of Understanding to agree to participate in the scheme.

Do I qualify for the program?

Each student must comply with the following criteria to access the program:

- Be registered in a Queensland School of Distance Education.
- Be identified as a Geographically Isolated student.
- Qualify to receive the computer and broadband subsidies.

How much does the scheme cost?

The scheme is a three year commitment of \$500 per year.

Participants can choose to use their Queensland Education Hardware Subsidy to participate in the scheme. Additional value is provided in the scheme where:

- The device has been purchased using DETs bulk purchasing power
- All software identified as being necessary for SDE learning experiences has been purchased and pre-installed on the device (no need for parents to purchase this separately)
- The laptop is supported for all warranty faults and issues for the 3 years of the scheme and then they can choose to receive a new device

What is the device?

The device is renegotiated and changes yearly. The device for the 2017 trial is a HP 640 G2 laptop device which includes Touch Screen functionality. The specifications are:

Model: HP ProBook 640 G2

Processor: Intel® Core™ i5-6200U with Intel® HD Graphics 520 (2.3 GHz, up to 2.8 GHz with Intel® Turbo Boost Technology, 3 MB cache, 2 cores) 1,2

Memory: 8GB (2x4GB) 2133 DDR4

Storage: 500GB HDD

Display: 14.0" FHD SVA LED (1920x1080 resolution) with touch

Networking: Intel Dual Band Wireless – AC 8260 802.11 HP It4120 Qualcomm® Snapdragon X5 LTE Mobile Broadband Module

Communication: Bluetooth 4.2

Ports and Interfaces: 2xUSB 3.0, 1xUSB Type C, 1xVGA, 1x Ethernet, 1xHDMI, 1 x

DisplayPort

Battery: 3 Cell 46 WHr Long Life 840

The device also comes with a backpack carry bag and mouse.

Does the laptop come with warranty and support?

The device comes with a three year HP warranty. It is also fully supported by the SDE school technician who receives priority service from the Departments service centre. The device can receive remote support from the SDE technician and is also supported by a hot-swap program at the SDE. In the event that the device needs to be returned for repair, a new device will be sent prior to ensure continuity of use.

What software comes on the laptop?

The laptop will arrive pre-installed with Windows 10 and with core software packages for educational use including:

Adobe Reader, Audacity, Bluecoat Proxy Client, Internet Explorer, Java, Macromedia Flash, Microsoft Silverlight, Microsoft Edge, Microsoft Office 2016:Access, Excel, OneNote, Outlook, PowerPoint, Publisher, Word, PDF Creator, Paint.NET, Photo Story 2, Quicktime, Symantec Antivirus, Voice Recorder, Windows Media Player and Movie Maker and many more.

The laptop device also comes with an in-built camera with software and drivers for distance education lessons.

Respective SDE to add site specific programs go here

What is best practice to ensure important Data is saved appropriately?

Regular backing up of student work is essential to avoid data loss. It is recommended that a tool such as Synctoy (free) is used to schedule a regular backup to USB or SDE card.

What is included with the laptop?

The scheme provides the laptop device, backpack carry bag, mouse and all relevant software. The scheme does not include home printers, scanners, headsets or any other peripherals.

Can I install my home printer (or other software)?

Each laptop device will come with a parent administrator account with each parent being provided with an administration password. If the parent/caregiver decides it is appropriate to install software or change settings they are free to do so.

Is the laptop safe for my student to use?

The laptop comes with a Bluecoat K9 proxy client that prevents the user from accessing inappropriate web content. The student can request that sites be unblocked if they deem it necessary for their studies through their parent. Parents also have the ability to change settings or allowing software to be installed by logging in with the provided parent account. It is strongly encouraged that all parents utilise this software to support a safe learning environment for their child.

What if the laptop is damaged?

The device is covered for warranty faults. In the event of non-warranty damage, the participating family is liable for the repair costs. It is recommended that options are explored by the family to add the device to their relevant insurance policies.

Why use a touch screen for education?

Current educational research has caused a global push towards the use of touch-enabled devices for education. Research has shown that touch devices enhance students problem solving abilities by enabling more varied interaction with information, programs and media than the traditional methods with a simple mouse and keyboard. It has also been shown to address social issues such as equity of access in using devices.

Suggested peripheral devices for the laptop?

Certain peripheral devices may be useful depending on student preference. Devices which would/may be of benefit include:

- Student headset
- Stylus (a pen device that allows a user to write on the screen)
- USB computer docking station (non-brand specific)
- An additional monitor (usually ranging from 19 inch to 22 inch for desktop use)

Oviatt, Sharon (Routledge, 2013)
—The Design of Future Educational Interfaces

I need a **LEARNING** tool

SHARON OVIATT

For example, quality pen interfaces that support writing numbers, symbols, and diagrams substantially increase students' ability to generate hypotheses when solving science problems (Oviatt, 2009; Oviatt, Cohen, Miller, Hodge & Mann, 2012)

THE DESIGN OF
**FUTURE
EDUCA
INTERFACES**

If we want computers to be learning tools then we need to acknowledge the ability for that computer to have input capabilities which support thinking and problem solving - a stylus is crucial.

Before computers can function as thinking tools suitable for educational interfaces, they need to be redesigned with capabilities and affordances that stimulate ideation, extended problem solving, inferential reasoning, and challenging learning activities.

For more information visit: <http://charlevisde.eq.edu.au>