

Parent and Student Laptop and Technology Handbook



**2025-2026
Wendell School District**

Laptop Procedures and Information for Students and Parents

Initiative Purpose

It's not a technology initiative...it's a learning initiative a 21st Century learning initiative

We believe that the essential skills need for students to be College and Career ready are:

- Study Skills
- Growth Mindset
- Collaboration
- Persistence
- Ownership of Learning (student centered)
- Technology Proficiency

These skills are considered essential in the learner-centered environment and must be interwoven with traditional courses and content.

Furthermore, we believe that all WHS students having a laptop will:

- Allow teachers to deliver more personalized content and lessons to students;
- Allow students to learn at their own pace and ability level;
- Help students to become technologically skilled and literate and thus better prepared for modern workplaces;
- Empower students to do more complex and creative work by allowing them to use digital and online applications and tools;
- Improve the administration and management of schools and classrooms by making it easier to gather information on what students know and have done;
- Improve communications among students, teachers, and parents.

Distribution of Laptop Devices

- Before they are issued any mobile computing device, each student must submit a copy of the WSD Laptop and Technology Use Agreement (found at the end of this document) signed by both a parent/guardian and the student. The student will also be required to pay a technology fee of \$30.00 before they may take the device home.
- Parents or guardians of students may use the school-issued device, and their involvement in student learning through technology is strongly encouraged.
- Both parent and student use of the District's devices, networks, and software may be subject to Public Records Requests depending upon the content of the document or communication, including email.

Laptop Care

Care and Safety

Students are responsible for the general care of any device they have been issued by the District and are expected to observe the following precautions:

- No food or drink is allowed next to a device while it is in use;
- Insert and remove cords, cables, and removable storage devices carefully;
- Shut down the device when not in use to conserve battery life;
- Stickers, drawings, or permanent markers may not be used on the device;
- Do not vandalize the device or any other school property;
- Devices must never be left in any unsupervised area;
- Students are responsible for keeping their device's battery charged for school each day;
- Do not place anything on the device that could put pressure on the screen;
- Clean the screen with a soft, dry cloth or anti-static cloth;
- Devices should not be stored in a student's vehicle, or any other place which may be subject to extreme temperatures.

Carrying Laptops

- Always transport laptops with care and with the screen closed. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.
- Never lift laptops by the screen.
- Never carry laptops with the screen open.

Screen Care

The laptop screen can be damaged if subjected to heavy objects, rough treatment, some cleaning solvents, and other liquids. The screens are particularly sensitive to damage from excessive pressure, heat, and light. Please observe the following guidelines:

- Do not put pressure on the top of a laptop when it is closed.
- Do not store a laptop with the screen open.
- Make sure there is nothing on the keyboard before closing the lid (e.g. pens, pencils, jewelry, etc.).
- Only clean the screen with a soft, dry microfiber cloth or anti-static cloth.

Asset Tags

- All laptops will be labeled with a Wendell school/student name asset tag.
- Asset tags may not be modified or tampered with in any way.
- Students may be charged up to the full replacement cost of a laptop for tampering with a school asset tag or turning in a laptop without a school asset tag.

Responsible Use Expectations/Rules

Use at School

- Devices are intended for use at school each day. Students are responsible for bringing their device to all classes, unless specifically instructed not to do so by their teacher.
- Devices should be brought to school each day in a fully charged condition. Repeated failure to comply with this requirement may result in disciplinary action.
- If students leave their device at home, they may contact a parent/guardian or other person to bring it to school. Students without a device may use a computer in the classroom or a device from the lending pool, depending upon availability and at the administrator's discretion. This includes students whose devices are undergoing repair.
- Sound must be muted, or headsets must be used at all times unless the teacher directs otherwise.

Personalizing Devices

- While at no time does the device become the personal property of students or staff, students may place individualized content on the device, which are limited to music, images, and other items that do not hinder the network or device functionality.
- Students may not make any permanent changes to the exterior of the device.
- Students may be permitted to select their own screensavers and backgrounds, provided they are not inappropriate. Screensavers, backgrounds, or other pictures containing guns, weapons, pornographic materials, inappropriate language, alcohol, drugs, gang related symbols or pictures, the student's password or other items deemed inappropriate by the administration will result in disciplinary actions.
- Students may not add options or upgrades to the device, change the operating system, or add unauthorized software, or bypass safety controls. Examples of prohibited software include VPNs and gaming software.
- Should students or parents/guardians place personalized content on the device, such content may be accessed or viewed by District staff at any time, for any reason, including randomly selected device reviews. No content placed on District provided devices will be considered privileged or confidential.

Storage Management

- Students should back up their work frequently using removable storage or by e-mailing important documents to themselves. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that work is not lost due to mechanical failure or accidental deletion. Device malfunctions are not an acceptable excuse for not submitting work.
- It is important to note that any work students do in their Google Account (Drive, Documents, Presentations, Forms, etc.) is saved frequently and automatically in the *Cloud*.

Software

- All software installed by the District must remain on the device in usable condition and be easily accessible at all times.

- From time to time the school may add or update software applications. The licenses for this software sometimes require that the software be deleted from devices at the completion of a course. Periodic reviews of devices will be made to ensure that students have deleted software that is no longer required in class and that the District is in compliance with licensing requirements.
- It is the responsibility of individual students to be aware of additional software programs and files loaded onto their device which are required for classes or school activities.
- Students wishing to add additional software onto a device must first obtain the permission of the school's technology department. Any additional software must be appropriate for the school environment and comply with the Internet Access Conduct Agreement. Violent or non-educational games, or obscene or pornographic material are not authorized. The technology department shall determine if the requested software is appropriate or not, and the student may appeal this decision to the principal. Each student is responsible for ensuring that only licensed software is loaded onto his or her device.

Inspection and Filtering

- Content filtering software will be used to prevent access to material considered inappropriate or harmful to minors.
- Students may be selected at random or for cause to provide their device for inspection. If technical difficulties occur or unauthorized software or any other violation of District policy is discovered, all files may be removed and the hard drive may be reformatted. Only authorized software will be installed. The District does not accept responsibility for the loss of any software or other materials deleted due to a reformat and re-image.
- Electronic mail, network usage, and all stored files shall not be considered confidential and may be monitored at any time by designated District staff to ensure appropriate use. The District will cooperate fully with local, state, or federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to violations of law.

Remote Access of Devices

Devices may be equipped with the ability to be accessed remotely in the case of technical problems requiring remote assistance, missing or stolen devices, or other for any other appropriate District purpose. A student does not need to be asked for permission prior to remote software maintenance.

Acceptable Use

Access to the devices is a privilege and not a right. Each employee, student, and parent will be required to follow the Internet/Network Acceptable Use Policies of WSD. Violation of these policies, whether by the student or another party, while the device is in student custody may result in disciplinary action for the student, possible revocation of device privileges, and/or contacting law enforcement authorities.

Protecting and Storing Devices

- Students devices will be password protected, and students shall keep their passwords

confidential.

- When students are not using their devices, the devices should be stored in their lockers and/or the carrying case/bag.
- Students are encouraged to take their devices home every day after school.
- Under no circumstances should devices be left in unsupervised areas while at school. Unsupervised areas include the school grounds, the cafeteria, computer lab, locker rooms, library, unlocked classrooms, dressing rooms, and hallways. Unsupervised devices may be confiscated by staff and taken to the building principal's office. Disciplinary action may be taken for leaving a device in an unsupervised location.

Ownership

WSD retains sole right of possession of the laptop. WSD lends the laptop to the students primarily for educational purposes, and only for the academic year. Administrative staff and faculty retain the right to collect and/or inspect laptops at any time, including via electronic remote access and to alter, add or delete installed software or hardware. Students should not share their laptop with another student or leave the laptop unattended.

Responsibility for Electronic Data

- The students are solely responsible for any apps or extensions on their laptops that are not installed by a member of the Wendell Schools technology staff. Students are responsible for backing up their data to protect from loss.
- Users of School Technology have no rights, ownership, or expectations of privacy to any data that is, or was, stored on the laptop, school network, or any school issued applications and are given no guarantees that data will be retained or destroyed.

Operating System and Security

- Students may not use or install any operating system on their laptop other than the current version of Windows or ChromeOS that is supported and managed by the school.
- The laptop operating system, either Windows or ChromeOS , should update automatically. Students do not need to manually update their laptops.

Content Filter

- The school utilizes an Internet content filter that is in compliance with the federally mandated Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). All laptops will have all Internet activity protected and monitored by the school. If an educationally valuable site is blocked, students may request the site be unblocked.
- Parents/guardians are responsible for filtering and monitoring any internet connection students use that is not provided by the school when using their Google Accounts at home. When students log into their accounts from school or home, or any internet connection, the filtering system is in place. However, parents should monitor and be aware of student activity on the devices while they are not at school.

Google Apps for Education

- Laptops seamlessly integrate with the Google Apps for Education suite of productivity and collaboration tools. This suite includes Google Docs (word processing), Spreadsheets, Presentations, Drawings, and Forms.
- All work done in Google Apps for Education is stored in the cloud.

Records

- The school will maintain a log of all Laptops including: Laptop serial number, asset tag code, and name and ID number of the student assigned to the device.
- As far as possible, each student will be assigned the same laptop for the duration of his/her time at Wendell School District. Take good care of it! They will be collected at the end of each year.

Repairing/Replacing Devices

- Repairs will be estimated on a case by case basis at current replacement costs. Accidental damage, up to 3 incidents, will be repaired by the District if the student has paid the \$30 technology fee to the District. If the technology fee has not been paid, the parent or guardian is responsible for all costs for necessary repairs to the device or cover/sleeve.
- Students who do not pay the technology fee will not be allowed to take any device home or off campus. They will be required to check them out and in each day.

No Expectation of Privacy

- Students have no expectation of confidentiality or privacy with respect to any usage of a Laptop, regardless of whether that use is for school-related or personal purposes, other than as specifically provided by law. The school may, without prior notice or consent, log, supervise, access, view, monitor, and record use of student Laptops at any time for any reason related to the operation of the school. By using a Laptop, students agree to such access, monitoring, and recording of their use.

Monitoring Software

- Teachers, school administrators, and the technology department staff reserve the right to monitor activity on student laptops via remote connection, physical inspection, and teacher observation.

Digital Citizenship

Responsible Uses and Digital Citizenship

While working in a digital and collaborative environment, students should always conduct themselves as good digital citizens by adhering to the following:

1. **Respect Yourself.** I will show respect for myself through my actions. I will select online names that are appropriate. I will use caution with the information, images, and other media that I post online. I will carefully consider what personal information about my life, experiences, or relationships I post. I will not be obscene. I will act with integrity.
2. **Protect Yourself.** I will ensure that the information, images, and materials I post online will not put me at risk. I will not publish my personal details, contact details, or a schedule of my activities. I will report any attacks or inappropriate behavior directed at me while online. I will protect passwords, accounts, and resources.
3. **Respect Others.** I will show respect to others. I will not use electronic media to antagonize, bully, harass, or stalk people. I will show respect for other people in my choice of websites: I will not visit sites that are degrading to others, pornographic, racist, or inappropriate. I will not enter other people's private spaces or areas. I will not take pictures or videos of students or staff without their prior consent.
4. **Protect Others.** I will protect others by reporting abuse and not forwarding inappropriate materials or communications. I will avoid unacceptable materials and conversations.
5. **Respect Intellectual property.** I will request permission to use copyrighted or otherwise protected materials. I will suitably cite all use of websites, books, media, etc. I will acknowledge all primary sources. I will validate information. I will use and abide by the fair use rules.
6. **Protect Intellectual Property.** I will request to use the software and media others produce. I will purchase, license, and register all software or use available free and open source alternatives rather than pirating software. I will purchase my music and media and refrain from distributing these in a manner that violates their licenses.

Copyright and File Sharing

Students are required to follow all copyright laws pertaining to all media including text, images, apps, music, and video. Downloading, sharing, and posting online illegally obtained media is in violation of the WSD Internet and Technology Acceptable Use Policy.

Laptop Procedures and Information for Students and Parents

The following document is provided as part of the current Technology Handbook and details the start of year and end of year procedures for the laptops provided to the Wendell High School students for use during the school year.

Start of Year Process

1. Technology forms and information will be provided for parents and students to during registration.
2. All forms must be completed appropriately each year prior to laptops being issued to students.
 - a. Internet Usage Agreement
 - b. Laptop and Technology Use Agreement
 - c. Google Apps for Education Permission Form
3. Students must have forms signed appropriately to be issued a laptop. The technology fee must be paid before students are allowed to take the device off campus.

End of Year Process

1. Laptops, bags/cases, and any peripherals provided to students must be turned in and check-out sheet signed by a Technology staff member in order for a student to complete check-out.
2. Students who do not return their laptop will be charged the equivalent value of the item and will not be able to complete check-out until the fee is paid.
3. Graduating students will be provided the opportunity to purchase the laptop they have been using for an amount equal to the depreciated value of the item.

Depreciated Value

Depreciated value of the laptop shall be determined by the model and purchase date.

Age (years)	Value*
4	\$125
5	\$100
6	\$75
>6	\$50

*Based on the purchase price of devices currently issued to students at Wendell High School and is subject to change.

WSD Laptop and Technology Use Agreement

Valid for the 2024-2025 School Year

Student Initials	Parent Initials	By initialing and signing below, the student and their parent/guardian agree to follow and accept:
		this Laptop Use Agreement in its entirety.
		that Wendell School District owns the Laptop, software and issued peripherals.
		that in no event shall Wendell School District be held liable to any claim of damage, negligence, or breach of duty.
		that I will be aware of what I post online. Website and social media venues are very public. What you contribute leaves a digital footprint for all to see. Do not post anything you wouldn't want friends, enemies, parents, teachers, future colleges, or employers to see. (THINK, is it <u>T</u> True, <u>H</u> elpful, <u>I</u> nspiring, <u>N</u> ecessary, <u>K</u> ind?)
		I will follow the school's code of conduct when writing online. I know it is acceptable to disagree with other's opinions; however, I will do so in a respectful way, making sure that criticism is constructive and not hurtful. What is inappropriate in the classroom is inappropriate online.
		I will be safe online and never give out personal information, including, but not limited to, last names, phone numbers, addresses, exact birth dates, and pictures. I will not share my password with anyone except parents and authorized staff
		I understand that citing other sources to support my thoughts and ideas is recommended. However, I will be sure to read and review other sources before linking to ensure that all information is appropriate for a school setting.
		I will do my own work and will not use other people's intellectual property without their permission. I am aware that it is a violation of copyright law to copy and paste other's words, and it is considered to be plagiarism. This includes the use of AI generated content. I will use good practices by linking to sources.
		I will be aware that images may also be protected under copyright laws and will verify that I have permission to use the image, or that it is in the public domain.
		I understand that all work should be well written, and will follow accepted writing conventions including proper grammar, capitalization, and punctuation. If I edit someone else's work, I will be sure it is in the spirit of improving the writing.
		I know that representing myself online is an extension of me, and I will not misrepresent myself by using someone else's identity.

		if I notice inappropriate material that makes me feel uncomfortable or is not respectful, I will tell my teacher right away.
		I understand that I'm not allowed to make changes to laptop settings or install software without permission. This includes VPNs and gaming software.
	No Parents Initials	I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the terms of the Wendell District's policies regarding District-provided mobile computing devices. Should any violation or misuse of the device occur while it is in my custody, I understand and agree that I may lose access to the device, or may lose the privilege of taking it home, and will forfeit any fees paid for use of the device, regardless of whether the misuse was committed by me or another person.
	No Parents Initials	I accept full responsibility for the safe and secure handling of the device for this school year.
	No Parents Initials	I accept full responsibility for the proper use and safeguarding of the device under all applicable policies.
	No Parents Initials.	I understand that it is my responsibility to immediately report any damage, theft, or problems with the device to a teacher or administrator.
No Student Initials		I understand that I may pay a \$30 technology fee to cover the cost of repairs for <u>accidental</u> damage to the device or carrying case, up to 3 claims per year.
No Student Initials		I understand my child's responsibility in the use and care of the laptop. I further understand that if he or she is found to be responsible for <u>deliberate or negligent</u> damage (<i>such as missing keys</i>) or for the loss of the device, I will be financially responsible for reasonable repair/replacement cost.
No Student Initials		I understand that my child will be issued the same device every fall and may get to keep my device upon graduation at the discretion of school administration.
No Student Initials		I understand that if any violation or misuse of the device occurs while it is in my child's custody, his or her access privileges to the internet or use of a mobile computing device can be suspended or terminated, that he or she will forfeit any fees paid for use of the device, and that he or she may face other disciplinary measures, regardless of whether the misuse was committed by him or her or by another person.
No Student Initials		I also understand that I will be responsible for monitoring my student's use of the device outside the school setting.
		I understand students may not post personal contact information about other people. This includes but is not limited to last names, addresses, and/or phone numbers.

Student Name:

ID:

Grade:

		I am responsible for the use my individual accounts and should take all reasonable precautions to prevent others from being able to use my account. Under no conditions should I provide my password to another person, except for parents and guardians.
	No Parents Initials.	I understand and will abide by the Internet Use Agreement . I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action.
No Student Initials.		as the parent or guardian of this student I have read the Internet Use Agreement. I understand that this access is designated for educational purposes. Wendell School District has taken precautions to eliminate controversial materials and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use is not in a school setting. I hereby give permission to issue an account for my child and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

Student Signature

Date

Parent or Legal Guardian: As the parent/guardian of the above student (please initial **one**)

_____ I **do** wish my son/daughter to be allowed take the device home at this time and will pay the \$30 technology fee. The technology fee does not cover lost chargers or damage such as broken screens, hinges, or removed keys, or other preventable damage.

_____ I do **not** wish my son/daughter to take the device home at this time and will pay the \$30 technology fee.

_____ I do **not** wish to pay the \$30 technology fee. I realize that I am fully responsible for the cost of any necessary repairs to the device and/or complete replacement. I further understand that by not choosing to pay the technology fee, my student will not be able to take the device off campus.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Phone

Email

Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under 13. By default, advertising is turned off for the school's Google Apps for Education domain. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes.

This permission form allows the school to act as an agent for parents in the collection of information within the school context. The school's use of student information is solely for educational purposes. The school may also provide a Google Apps for Education account with an associated email account for students use. To gain access to their own Google Apps for Education account, students under the age of 13 must first obtain permission, as verified by their signature on this document.

Student use of Google Apps for Education is governed by the school's Technology Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and the school's Student-Parent Handbook. Students are responsible for their own conduct at all times when using Google Apps for Education, just as they are when they use any technology resources the school offers. Google Apps for Education is available at school and at home via the web. Even though email from known inappropriate sites is blocked, there is always a chance that students will be exposed to inappropriate content. The school will monitor student use of Apps when students are at school. Parents and guardians are responsible for monitoring their child's use of Apps outside of school. We encourage you to discuss with your child your family rules and expectations for using Internet-based tools, including but not limited to Google Apps for Education. Parents and guardians are encouraged to report inappropriate use of Google Apps for Education to the school.

Privacy and Safety Requirements

- Students may not post personal contact information about other people. This includes but is not limited to last names, addresses, and/or phone numbers.
- Students will tell their teacher or other school staff members about any message they view or receive that they believe is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable.
- Students are responsible for the use of their individual accounts and should take all reasonable precautions to prevent others from being able to use their account. Under no conditions should a student provide their password to another person, except for parents and guardians.

For additional information about privacy and safety, Google's "Good to Know" site provides an excellent guide to staying safe and secure online. The guide can be accessed at <http://www.google.com/intl/en/goodtoknow>

Student Name:

ID:

Grade:

Wendell School District Google Apps for Education Permission Form

2024-25 School Year

(Completion required for students under the age of 13).

Student:

(Printed Last Name and First Name)

Age:

Date of Birth:

Grade:

Parent/Guardian

(Printed Last Name and First Name)

I understand that by allowing the use of Google Apps for Education, information about my child will be collected and stored electronically, including Name and Student ID#. I have read the privacy policies associated with the use of Google Apps for Education (<http://www.google.com/policies/privacy>). I understand that I may ask for my child's account to be removed at any time.

_____ YES, I give permission for my child to use Google Apps for Education. I understand that this includes permission for my child to publish student work, documents and data to the school's Google Apps for Education domain. I agree to monitor and enforce acceptable use when my child is off school property.

_____ NO, I do not give permission for my child to use Google Apps for Education. I understand that this means my child will not be able to access Google Apps for Education for any purpose, including but not limited to sharing information and/or collaborating with school staff and/or students concerning assignments, projects, and events.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date