Dear Parent/Caregiver

Welcome to the Student Laptop Scheme. This Scheme has been carefully put together to offer exceptional value and convenience to families. The package includes exclusive, 24/7 use of a commercial grade, high-end laptop at a fraction of the retail cost of a similar device, with all software needed for each BSHS subject, as well as extensive technical support, insurance, and added security features.

**Advantages of the Beaudesert Student Laptop Scheme**

- Wireless connectivity across the school site, with access to network drives, internet, and online classrooms
- Laptop is owned, maintained and supported by Beaudesert SHS
- Students have access to a school-operated Help Desk during school hours
- Limited accidental damage protection included
- In the case of device failure, a Hot Swap device will be supplied until replacement or repair of the original laptop

**What the students say about our Student Laptop Scheme**

- “It makes doing homework and research much easier and quicker.”
- “The laptop is good for finding information easily for class and for taking notes. It's convenient.”
- “The laptop helps when completing schoolwork because I can get information instantly and I’ve got the programs already on it without waiting for someone else to finish on another computer.”

**Beaudesert Student Laptop Scheme ‘The Laptop’**

**The Hardware**

An Acer Aspire 1830T ultra-low voltage laptop with the following specifications:

- Intel Core i3 processor
- 4GB of RAM
- 11.6 inch LCD screen
- Warranty and accidental damage cover (conditions apply)
- Six cell battery – providing for approx. five hours of life

Important considerations regarding the laptop include:

- Lightweight
- Reputable brand
- Protective case supplied
Included Software

Windows 7 – Education Queensland MOE version (which includes other free software)
Microsoft Office Enterprise 2010 – Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote
Blue Coat internet filtering
Adobe Photoshop CS6, Dreamweaver CS6, Fireworks CS6, Acrobat Pro CS6, Flash CS6, Soundbooth CS6, Illustrator CS6, After Effects CS6, Premiere Pro 4.0, InDesign CS6

Furthermore, a number of subjects require specific software which will be installed by the IT department, at no extra cost, upon request. They include, but are not limited to:

Autodesk Design Academy 2012 Suite – AutoCAD, Inventor, Revit.
Jasc Paintshop Pro 7

Support

The Laptops for Students package offers a great deal of support to families. We have a school-based IT department with staff able to provide technical assistance. Financial protection is offered with:
- a school based warranty
- a Limited Accidental Damage protection policy

Repairs are always addressed as quickly as possible, however if a laptop needs to be booked in for repair, the student will be offered an identical “Hot Swap” laptop to use until their own is ready to collect (at no cost).

Security

Each school laptop is assigned to the student only - which means that no one else is able to log on to the laptop, or access the contents.

The laptops come installed with Blue Coat, which is a new, internationally recognised web-filtering system used by Education Queensland. It is designed to protect users against:

- inappropriate webpages
- spyware and malware
- insecure instant messaging
- peer-to-peer sessions
- scams and identity theft

Whilst students are at school, the filtering is at a high level. This level restricts them from websites such as:

- Social networking sites e.g. Facebook
- Open/Mixed content sites e.g. YouTube
- Translation sites e.g. Google translation
- Chat sites e.g. MSN Messenger
- Internet telephony e.g. Skype
- Media sharing e.g. Prezi
When students use their devices at home, the high level of home-filtering will allow them slightly greater freedom, but is subject to the Student Laptop Charter (available on the school’s website).

As a school we are offering parents / caregivers of Beaudesert High School the option to allow students to access a medium level of filtering while **not at school** when they are connected to a non-departmental internet connection, such as their own home internet. Medium level filtering provides a less restrictive level of protection. Students with this level can access a wider range of websites, which include:

- Social networking e.g. Facebook
- Adult/Mature content
- Alternative Spirituality/Religion
- Nudity
- Translation websites

Please note that the school recognises that no matter which web filtering or browser system is used, there is no substitute for parental supervision to ensure appropriate and safe internet use.

**Laptop Use**

The use of a laptop, which is mobile and available both in and out of school, can empower students to take control of their own learning.

The laptop provides students with the following, at their fingertips, at school and home:

- Online virtual classrooms
- Online discussion boards and collaborative learning tools
- Subject outlines and unit planners
- Industry standard software for creating, editing, designing, presenting and sharing
- Access to expertise from around the world – in real time.

Future expansion of the program will include:

- Digital textbooks for many subjects  Yrs. 7 & 8 are currently using digital textbooks
- Electronic submission of assessment tasks
- Provision of electronic feedback and results.

ICT has been a large focus at Beaudesert State High School in recent years. The use of ICT in classrooms will vary from subject to subject and topic to topic, however the laptop can be a vital learning tool for students, every day.

**Payment**

The annual fee to participate in the Student Laptop Scheme has been set as low as possible and is part of the Resource Scheme payment. The payment options available to families participating in the program include total payment made by credit card, eftpos, cheque, money order, cash or internet banking. You can also establish a payment plan with the school, where payments are taken from an account on a schedule that is convenient for you.

If your child leaves Beaudesert SHS during the school year, a pro-rata refund will be calculated and the laptop must be returned to the school.
Prior to the distribution of any laptops:

Previous years’ Student Resource Scheme fees must have been paid;
Must have fully paid the annual fee for the Student Laptop Scheme OR at least agreed
to a Payment Plan and have made the first payment; and
Current Student Resource Scheme fee payments must be up to date.

The school reserves the right to take back the laptop at time of overdue payment. It will be given
back when payments are up-to-date / finalised.

Please refer to the Laptop Participation Agreement for the full Terms and Conditions of the Scheme.

Notes:

1. An excess applies on all Accidental Damage Warranty claims: 1st claim = $50; 2nd claim = $100; 3rd claim =
   $150. Subsequent claims will require students to justify their positions in the 1to1 Laptop Program. Note,
   where a school determines that damage has been intentionally caused to a device or a student has
   disrespected school property, then the full cost of repair or replacement will be charged.

2. Software will likely include: Windows 7 Student Pro, Office Professional Plus 2010; Symantec Antivirus and more