

# ***Strathmore Secondary College Notebook Program Year 7 2008***



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## Why do we have a notebook program?

There has been a great deal of research conducted on notebook programs. A brief summary of findings:

- ✓ Increases motivation by providing a greater variety of ways for students to engage in their learning.
- ✓ Provides for individual approaches for students to present work
- ✓ Allows teachers to present students with more interactive approaches to learning.
- ✓ Enables students to have greater access to up to date information resources.
- ✓ Greater concentration on higher order learning activities – activities that require analysis, synthesis and self evaluation
- ✓ Enhances information literacy skills
- ✓ Encourages students to become independent learners
- ✓ Provides greater opportunities for students to engage in collaborative work via email and blogs
- ✓ Provides more flexibility to cater for individual learning styles.

On the other hand, it is also true that:

- ✓ Students in notebook classes tend to cover material in more depth so it can take longer to get through prescribed curriculum
- ✓ Some students can become distracted by computer games and internet sites

## Why a school designated model?

We have found it important to have one make and model and a designated supplier. This enables more efficient teaching and technical support within the college. It also enables more effective insurance and warranty coverage and minimises program costs for all.



## How does the curriculum in a notebook class compare with others?

Students follow a common College curriculum in their core subjects enriched by the expanded learning opportunities offered by Information and Communication Technologies

- English
- Maths
- Science
- History / Geography

In other non-core subjects, PE, art, students are not expected to use their notebooks.

## What software is included?

(Please note that as we are still finalising details there may be minor changes to the following list)

- Microsoft Office
- Geometer's sketchpad
- Mathletics (Website subscription)
- Geogebra
- Graphmatica
- Gamemaker
- Movie Maker
- OneNote
- Audacity
- Music Composition Tool
- Photo Story
- Lego Digital Designer & Mindstorms Edu NXT
- Promethian Activstudio
- Google Sketchup
- Google Earth
- Physics Illustrator
- Huelab Mindbook and Fun with Construction

