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To all students entering the GM in the school year 2021-2022 as well as to their parents/legal guardians

Basel, 18. Mai 2021

Re: notebook-based lessons in year 10 (first classes), 2021-2022

Dear students, dear parents, dear legal guardians,

There is hardly a university course and hardly a career left nowadays that does not require knowledge of computer technology, the Internet and the so-called new social media. No end to this development is in sight, on the contrary: computer- and web-based applications are increasingly being integrated into every-day life.

The Gymnasium am Münsterplatz accommodates this development without changing the syllabus or the general educational contents. In the school year 2021-2022, in accordance with the education department of Basel-Stadt's ICT strategy for upper secondary education, an increased number of lessons in year 10 (=1st classes of Gymnasia in Basel-Stadt) will be taught using notebooks and web resources. This means that students will be using **their own notebook** or MacBook or convertible in class on a daily basis.

The advantages are obvious: students practise using ICT and, in this way, acquire valuable knowledge and skills for their university studies and for their professional future. Teachers can use modern forms of teaching thus tailoring learning opportunities to students' needs in a more nuanced manner.

A purpose- and meaningful, self-confident and reflected use of computers and the Internet is an important goal of our school profile. Good practices of learning and teaching are not banished from the classroom, but continue to play an essential role. In this way, students become increasingly aware whether and how, depending on the work phase, working with the computer and the Internet can be of advantage.

Students use **their own (private) notebook/laptop/MacBook/convertible** in class (bring-your-own-device concept, BYOD). Although by using computers some books and other materials students would otherwise have to take to school become obsolete, we strongly recommend a device as compact and light as possible so you don't have to carry a heavy load around all day. The servicing and maintenance of their notebooks is the students' responsibility.

In post-compulsory education, starting with year 10, the legal guardians have to pay for the learning materials. Legal guardians of students who, for financial reasons, do not have a notebook of their own and cannot afford one are kindly asked to contact the secretariat of the GM (gymnasium.muensterplatz@bs.ch) in order to get the official forms for requesting financial support.

We are planning to introduce students on the first day of school to the use of the Internet and notebooks as well as to the functioning of the WLAN and the printing system of the Gymnasium am Münsterplatz. Therefore, learners are expected to bring to school a fully charged, updated and set-up notebook from the first day; this includes all required software (see below) with the exception of Microsoft Office, which the school will make available to students free of charge at the beginning of the school year. Not permitted are computer games, private chats and surfing the Internet for private purposes during class, as well as visiting websites that have nothing to do with the lesson contents or are even indecent. Also, consuming any kind of such media (inappropriate pictures, videos, music) At any time in the school premises. The teachers and the ICT support team of the Gymnasium am Münsterplatz are allowed to carry out spot checks, and they ensure that the rules are followed.

Students need a device that meets the following minimum requirements:

- a minimum screen size of 12 inches (recognition of stylus and fingers)
- active stylus for the touchscreen
- at least 8 GB RAM
- at least Intel Core i5 processor
- at least 128 GB (SSD)
- a fully adequate Windows-based operating system (Windows 10, not 10s) or an up-to-date OS-based operating system
- battery life: 6 hours
- an integrated keyboard
- a USB port (2.0 standard)
- Bluetooth
- a charger lead
- a headphone port
- WLAN support

Advice for Mac users and for owners of Windows notebooks without touchscreen:

In principle, it is possible to work with a MacBook (Apple), although it may have some limitations (e.g. with Office programs). The above requirements apply. To work with a stylus, a graphics tablet must be connected to the computer (recommended: WACOM Intuos S BT which costs about CHF 100.-). Such a graphics tablet can also be used if the Windows notebook doesn't have a touchscreen with stylus recognition.

Typing the following keywords in a browser, you will find various devices that are both a notebook and a tablet with a touchscreen and that may be used in class: convertible, 2-in-1.

The Gymnasium am Münsterplatz does not work with any IT retailer and would therefore not like to recommend a shop. However, some retailers offer a student discount on request. On the

shop website www.edu.ch, using the code 19MUE63, GM students can purchase several manufacturers' devices at a reduced price.

The following software is required for classroom activities:

- a current version of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) learners will get free access at the start of the school year
- a common web browser (Chrome*, Safari*, Firefox*, Edge*, ...)
- a media player (Windows Media Player*, VLC Player*, QuickTime Player*, ...)
- a pdf-reader (Acrobat Reader DC*)

** free software*

Project head Mr. D. Stöckli is happy to answer your questions,
e-mail: david.stoeckli@edubs.ch

Kind regards,



Dr. Eugen Krieger
Headmaster



David Stöckli
Project Head

Other recipients:

- GM teaching staff
- vice principals