

Make the shift from Windows 7 to Windows 10: FAQs

This FAQ guidance is meant to be a resource to support customer questions around end of support for Windows 7 and to emphasize why it's important to start planning today.

When does support for Windows 7 end?

Microsoft will stop supporting Windows 7 on January 14, 2020.

Why is Microsoft ending support for Windows 7?

Windows 10 delivers a better experience for students and teachers and is easier for IT managers to deploy, manage and secure than Windows 7. Microsoft is committed to providing products with improved security. Although we strive to remove vulnerabilities during development, older products may not meet today's more demanding security requirements and Microsoft is unable to provide security updates for older products.

What does end of support mean?

After January 14, 2020, a PC running Windows 7 will still start and run, but it will no longer receive security updates. In addition, Microsoft customer service will no longer be available to provide Windows 7 technical support. With Windows 10, your devices will continue to receive the latest security updates to help keep you and your data safer.

What happens if I continue to use Windows 7?

You can continue to use Windows 7, but after support has ended, your PC will become more vulnerable to security risks and viruses. Windows will continue to start and run, but you will no longer receive software updates, including security updates, from Microsoft.

Can I upgrade my existing Windows 7 PC to Windows 10?

Yes, you can upgrade compatible Windows 7 PCs based on Microsoft's system requirements with a full license. To take advantage of the latest hardware capabilities, Microsoft recommend moving to a new PC with Windows 10.

What should I do if I am still running Windows 7?

For most Windows 7 users, moving to a new device with Windows 10 will be the recommended path forward. Today's PCs are faster and lightweight, yet powerful and more secure, with an average price that's considerably less than that of the average PC when Windows 7 was introduced in 2009. Our guide can help you choose a new PC. You can also upgrade compatible Windows 7 PCs based on these requirements with a full license, but we recommend moving to a new PC with Windows 10 to take advantage of the latest hardware capabilities.

How much does it cost to upgrade to Windows 10?

For schools with volume license agreements such as Microsoft 365 A3 or A5, a license for Windows 10 is included for all your devices. Schools with Microsoft 365 A1 are licensed to upgrade the edition of Windows 7 to the same edition of Windows 10. The actual cost will depend on the volume and level of licensing, ranging from no additional cost up to about **£35** per device for a new Open licensing agreement. New devices for schools start at £199 and include Windows 10.

What if I can't afford to move to Windows 10 in my school?

Contact ICT Solutions on 0845 303 3003 to get more information on how we can support you and project plan your move to a Windows 10 environment. Our EdTech Enhancement Programme (EEP) can help spread payments over three years

What are the most important differences between Windows 7 and Windows 10 for a school?

Some of the key benefits of Windows 10 compared to Windows 7 for schools include:

- [Better learning outcomes](#): Prepare students for the future by providing a platform for collaborating, exploring, personalized learning, and productivity.
- [Security](#): Windows 10 is the most secure, robust, and flexible Windows ever for your students. With multiple layers of integrated security, this is the most secure Windows yet.
- [Easy setup and management](#): Easily set up and deploy Windows 10 devices using Set up School PCs. Add [Intune for Education](#) (sold separately) to manage classroom devices and apps from a web console, so students and teachers can spend more time learning and connecting.
- [Digital ink](#): Take notes, navigate, draw, doodle, and edit. Discover all the ways you can be productive and get creative with a digital pen.¹
- [Cortana](#): Free up time and your hands by talking to your computer². Speak your mind and let your PC do the typing.
- [Accessibility](#): Windows 10 includes built-in, meaningful innovation to help students of differing abilities to be independent, efficient, and engaged whether they are reading, creating, collaborating, or organizing their work.
- [Microsoft Edge](#): Microsoft Edge is the fast, safe browser to get things done on the web. It has unique capabilities designed to help students and teachers stay focused and organized so they can accomplish more with less effort.

Isn't Windows 10 very different from Windows 7 and I will need to retrain my staff and students?

Your students' and teachers' favorite features are even better in Windows 10. It's what they loved about Windows 7 in a great package they already know how to use. Microsoft refreshed the general look and feel to help them be more efficient and productive. But don't worry, it's still just as easy to navigate. They still have plenty of ways to personalize their 1:1 PCs. Faster boot time, faster login, and more management options than Windows 7 make Windows 10 the better choice for shared devices.

¹Requires a touch-capable PC and the digital pen accessory may be sold separately; ²Hardware dependent.



Our passionate and experienced team have a mission to provide ICT Services and Products that are up to date, current and comply with best practice. We are very proud of our service and strive to give the best advice and support available whilst providing our customers excellent value for money.

Our team can provide planning and support to help you move to Windows 10 with our Edtech Enhancement Program (EEP), which can help you finance the move over three years.

To make the switch to Windows 10 call us: 0845 303 3003