FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Project Carte Blanche?

One CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education) school from every district of India has been selected under the Pilot Project of CBSE.

Under this program, TAG (Tech Avant Garde) will implement Hybrid Learning, Digital Literacy, Skill Hub Initiative, Financial Digital Literacy Program, Adolescent Health Program, Health Kiosk, School & College Connect, Art Connect, Virtual Field Trips and School Cinema, in partnership with CBSE and Microsoft.

The mission of CBSE Pilot Project is Endless Empowerment - the stakeholders of education viz., Principals, Educators, Students, Parents and School Management will be the beneficiaries. CBSE Pilot Project will empower 1500+ students, 100+ teachers, 3000+ parents of every Pilot school. 800+ schools, at least one from every district of India, have been selected for the implementation of this project.

This initiative will impact over 4 million stakeholders of education across the country.

What is the duration of Project Carte Blanche?

The duration of the project will be 5 years.

What does the Hybrid Learning curriculum (subjects) include?

The Hybrid Learning curriculum will be as per CBSE guidelines. For the current academic year TAG (Tech Avant Garde) will be conducting Hybrid Learning sessions for all the subjects except second languages.

Are all Programs under Project Carte Blanche mandatory?

All the programs under Project Carte Blanche are mandatory.

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What is the Lycée Platform and is it mandatory to use it?

Lycée platform is a connected learning community platform with the following feature sets:

Campus automation, Communication, and automation platform, LMS, Content management solution, E-com, and E-governance.

For one section of class 8 where Hybrid learning is used, the school must go for Lycée platform.

What training will the Licensee receive for using Lycée Platform?

Parents and students will be trained in the communication and collaboration aspect of Lycée platform. Teachers will be trained in content management, LMS, communication and automation aspects.

Are the Microsoft Office 365 licenses of Digital Teaching-Learning Platform granted to the school being charged for the same?

Microsoft Office 365 licenses will be made available to the school, free of cost.

Who will be receiving the Microsoft Office 356 licenses?

Microsoft Office 365 licenses will be granted to all Class 8 Teachers and all Students of Class 8.

Who are the Certifying authorities?

Certification will be given by CBSE, Microsoft, TAG, and other Partners.

What is the duration of the Accreditation?

Hybrid Learning accreditation from QCI-NABET will be renewed annually.

What does the Skill Hub Initiative entail?

Skill development will be done by the industry along with internships. This skill development will be done in their own schools on a hybrid format.

What is the role of Light House school in the Digital Literacy Program:

The light house school will be responsible for implementing all the programs of Hybrid Learning and showcase digital transformation in education.

How are the 1000 students selected for the Digital Literacy program?

The Digital Literacy Program of Project Carte Blanche is to train 1000 students per district. The students at the pilot school will be included as the first choice. For selecting the remaining students, the pilot school will guide TAG on the selection of other schools from the district from where these students would be onboarded.

What if there is an absence/fewer number of CBSE schools for the implementation of Digital Literacy program around Hub School?

In case there are fewer CBSE schools in the area around the Hub school, then the students for Digital Literacy Program can belong to other boards. Otherwise CBSE board is preferred.

Who is the Licensee being trained under Financial Digital Literacy Program?

All the licensee: teachers, students and parents will be trained under the Financial Digital Literacy Program.

What is the Bon Ami Card?

Bon Ami Card which will serve as ID Card, Access Control Card, Library Card, Payment card for fees and Tuck shop, and NCMC transaction will be for one section of Class 8 students of Hybrid Learning introduced for the current academic year. For the next academic year, the school may opt for all the students. Bon Ami Card will be available free of cost.

What is a Health Kiosk and a Counselling Kiosk under Adolescent Health program?

Health Kiosk- The Health kiosk will be useful in checking the vital health parameters of the student, teacher, and parent. The health kiosk will be backed by the

Community Medicine Department of a Medical College and all the parameters of the student will be analyzed. If there is any deficiency, they will be advised accordingly through the school.

Counselling Kiosk: Usually, every school has counsellors to manage their students' mental health. In this case, the kiosks are connected to the Psychology Department of a Medical college. If the students wish to discuss their problems and anxieties, they can log onto these kiosks and seek advice from the professionals.

What will be the training offered to parents under Hybrid learning programs?

Parents will be trained in Handling of Equipment, Communication and Collaboration aspect of Lycée platform, Adolescent Health Program, College Connect Program, Digital Literacy Program and Financial Digital Literacy Program.

What does the term "Loan" mean under Grant of License and Equipment?

As long as students / teachers are studying / teaching in the school, the devices will be used by them in the school and at home. When they leave school, they must return the device to the school. If the school/TAG terminates the agreement, the school must return the devices to TAG. School will not be charged for the use of devices.

What is the expected strength of a Hybrid learning section?

The expected strength for a Hybrid learning section is a maximum of 40 students.

Can the school acquire devices for more students?

The school can purchase laptops for the other students. TAG can also be contacted for the same and we will send the quotation accordingly.

What are the details of Devices and Equipment that will be delivered?

One Flat Panel Display with sound and camera for one section of class VIII. Maximum of 50 Laptops will be given to each school, 40 for use by students, 1 for use by principal and 9 for use by teachers of Class VIII.

Do the schools need to pay for the devices and equipment provided?

The devices and equipment will be provided free of cost to the school.

Will the new batch of class 8 receive new devices?

The new batch of class 8 of the Hybrid learning section next academic year will receive new devices.

What constitutes physical damage to the devices and equipment?

Physical damage to the equipment and devices constitutes- breakage of equipment, cracking of screen or something being dropped on the keyboard.

Who will be responsible to pay for loss/physical damage of devices?

We are concerned about physical damage done to the devices due to negligence. The school/parents will be responsible to pay for the loss / physical damage of the devices done by the student.

What is the depreciation value to be paid for physical damage of equipment and device?

There is no question of depreciation value to be paid. If the equipment and devices cannot be used after the damage, the full amount needs to be paid for procuring the new equipment and devices.

Who will all be trained to use the devices and equipment delivered?

The teachers will be trained first followed by the administrative staff, students, and parents.

Will the devices be used under parental control?

The students will be using the laptops under parental control.

Who will take care of service and repair of devices and equipment along with its annual maintenance?

TAG is tied up with a help desk partner who will be responsible for providing the support and service to the users as and when required. The devices and equipment also carry a warranty of 5 years.

How to manage the condition of devices and equipment after long term usage and what will happen to them post 5-year agreement?

We know the technical aspects and lifespan of the devices and equipment. Should the agreement come to termination, the devices and equipment will be taken back. We understand the wear and tear of the devices except the physical damage done to them.

A company has been awarded a contract to take care of the repair and services of the devices. If the devices have severe damage and are not repairable under the contract, the damages bill will be quoted by the company which will have to be borne by the users.

Hybrid learning sessions will be held with the students and teachers. Therefore, the school is responsible for the creation of a class 8 Hybrid Learning section with 40 responsible students. These students' parents must be included in the conversation while delivering devices so that they are aware that the students cannot break or mishandle the devices.

What are the software licenses required for the Hybrid teaching - learning process?

Project Carte Blanche will support the school by providing the required software and training for implementing the project.

What will be the yearly renewal cost of the software licenses provided by Project Carte Blanche?

The software licenses and their annual renewal will be made available to the school, free of cost.

How can the Datacenter be accessed and what is the cost of the Datacenter?

The school is responsible for provisioning Internet connectivity. If the internet connectivity fails, then the Datacenter will remain inaccessible. Data center will be made available to the school, free of cost.

What kind of data will be stored in the Datacenter?

The data stored in the Datacenter will include the data pertaining to the students and their performance which will be stored on a secured server.

What measures are taken to keep the data stored in the Datacenter safe?

The data stored in the Datacenter will not be exposed to any third party unless TAG receives written communication from the authorized school personnel.

Who is responsible for providing the internet in schools?

Provision of the internet is the responsibility of the school.

In case the schools are unaware of a public service provider, TAG will initiate and verify the presence of the public internet service provider after which the schools must provision for the same. If a Public Internet Provider is unavailable, then TAG will act as a moderator to support the school in getting internet connection via CSR.

What will be the recommended internet speed?

20 GB Internet Consumption per day with a bandwidth requirement of minimum 10 mbps dedicated line.

What will be the status of data after the 5-year period?

At the end of the agreement, the data will go back to the institution.

How will the training of the teachers on Hybrid Platform be conducted?

The offline training sessions will be held in Bengaluru and the regular training online. Having hands-on training experience would make the teachers more proficient in handling Hybrid learning sessions better. Once the agreement is signed, CBSE will be consulted with respect to training. As this training will be a part of CBSE CPD, please wait for the process to be completed.

Can TAG provide accommodation for all teachers in Bengaluru during their training period?

Offline training sessions will be held in Bengaluru and the regular training conducted online for the teachers. Project Carte Blanche is a social project. It must be noted that anything requested from TAG will have to be complied with all 800+ schools. Therefore, this kind of large sponsorship might not be possible.

Will there be any remuneration given to the teachers?

The school is getting close to 60 lakh investment/year in terms of hardware, software, networking, and training from social organizations. Therefore, we feel the school also should put in their investment in terms of teacher's timing for which there will be no remuneration.

What are the criteria for licensee selection?

We do not prescribe any criteria for selecting the Licensee as the context is different in each Institution.

Will TAG be responsible for provisioning Power, generator backup (online) and climate controlling devices?

Provision of power, UPS, internet, climate controlling devices will not be the responsibility of TAG.

Kindly ensure there is an uninterrupted power supply and back-up for the Hybrid learning sessions to continue during the regular school hours.

How can the school accommodate computer lab facilities for the Digital Literacy Program?

The computer labs will be used by your own students. Therefore, the school must make provision within its timetable to allocate computer facilities to its students for the Digital Literacy Program.

What are the details about the database software that must be provided by the schools?

Project Carte Blanche will support the school by providing the required software and training for implementing the project. Project Carte Blanche will not upgrade any illegal operating system / illegal software used by the school. In such a case the school will have to make their IT infrastructure compliant. TAG will support in upgradation of **legal software.**

What is the list of annexures mentioned in the agreement?

 I.   Annexure 1 (Skill Hub)
 II. Annexure 2 (Implementation)
 III. Annexure 3 (Circular)
 IV. Annexure 4 (Brochure)
 V.   Annexure 5 (Terminology)

Will there be any extension of the due date for signing the agreement?

Kindly sign and seal the agreement as quickly as possible as everything is on CBSE 's acceptance.

We have not received any official communication from CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education):

Initial communication to implement Project Carte Blanche was received from CBSE. All the emails communicated with Pilot schools thereafter are marked to the Deputy Secretary of CBSE as well.

Is there any financial liability for the institution?

We will not charge the school for the project's implementation. However, the school must provide the facilities mentioned in the agreement document.

Who is responsible for the maintenance and upgradation of admin room equipment?

TAG will be responsible for the maintenance and upgradation of the admin room equipment.

What is the procedure for the agreement's termination?

If the school wishes to terminate the agreement at any point, the school must give three months' notice and must return all the equipment and devices provided by TAG. All the licenses granted will also be cancelled.

What is the role of teachers/educators in Hybrid learning classroom?

TAG will provide a 3-year Digital Skilling Program for teachers on 21st Century teaching and learning skills, Hybrid Learning pedagogy and other technical competencies required. On continuous upskilling and course completion, Teachers will play an active role in 21st Century skill development among the students. Their role in the Hybrid classroom will be to have personal interactions with the students as their mentors and support them in further learning process.

What are the training aspects benefitting the Educators as a part of this program?

The Digital Skilling Program will be a Three-Year Path for Educators.
The educators will get training to get certified on the following:

- Microsoft Educator - Microsoft Tools (6 Course)
- Microsoft Advanced Educator - Master in Microsoft Teams (10 Course) + 21CLD (10 Course)
- Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert- Implementation of Tools in Classroom

- Empowered Educator - Digital Skills, Hardware Knowledge
- Adroit Mentor (GEM Pedagogy)
- Microsoft Certified Educator Professional Training Course
- Hybrid Learning Educator- LMS and Administration
- 21 CLD in Practice
- They will finally become a part of the Knowledge Worker Program as an Influencer, Contributor and Leader.

What are the training measures taken for the future replacement of educators/Project Coordinators/DTHL coordinators / adroit mentors?

TAG will ensure that training is provided for new/replaced Educators/Project Coordinators /DTHL/Adroit mentors through synchronous and asynchronous ways.

What is the need for the Agreement?

Any material supplied to the school needs to be done in an agreement because there are no financial implications.

What is the schedule and duration of the exams?

We will update the exam timetable from time to time.

Are the students under Hybrid Learning eligible for giving Board Examinations?

Yes, the students are eligible for giving the Board examinations.

What is the status of offline classes for the Hybrid Learning students:

There are no offline classes in the Hybrid mode of learning.

Are there any after school programs under the Hybrid learning format?

No, all the sessions of Hybrid learning will be conducted during school hours on every working day of the week.

What are the details of License usage as mentioned in the agreement document?

Licensing Policy: Any student/teacher who is eligible to receive the license to use the Hybrid software must be authorized by the school. If the license should continue for the subsequent year, the school must authorize for the same.

Can the students carry their devices home?

Yes, the students can take their devices home and use them.

What if a student of Hybrid learning leaves the school without returning the device allocated?

The school must plan such that the laptops are returned by the students before they leave school.

Who will be conducting the co-curricular activities like dance/music/art/sports etc.?

These activities will have to be accommodated through the school timetable and the teachers concerned will have to take these classes accordingly.

What if all the parents of class 8 students want their wards to be a part of the Hybrid learning section?

For the current academic year, one section of class 8 will be a part of the Hybrid learning sessions. The school and parents will understand the program better this way, and then we can take a call for the next academic year.
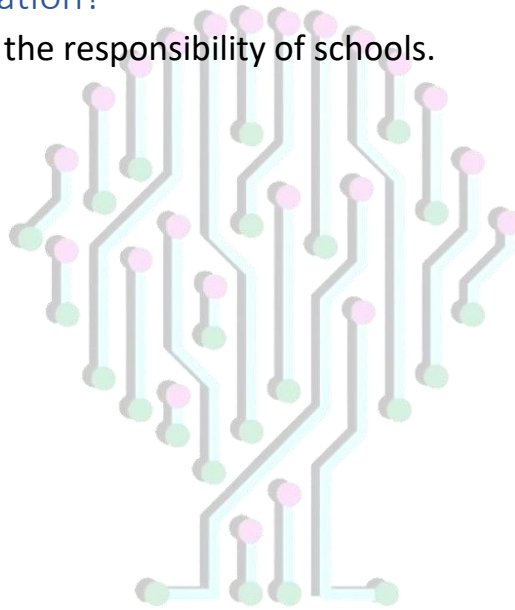
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Will the assessment/evaluation of the students be done in Hybrid mode?

Yes, the assessment/evaluation will be done in a hybrid mode.

Who will be responsible for the school computer labs and their infrastructural upgradation?

The computer lab will be the responsibility of schools.