



Learning Technologies Information Sheet

1. Asus Eee PC

What is it?

The Asus Eee PC (Eee PC) is a cost effective, lightweight subnotebook/net book computer equipped with a solid state drive compared to a traditional hard discs. The Eee PC is available in either Linux or Microsoft XP versions and is equipped with a range of function we have come to expect from the traditional laptop. For example word processing, email, web conferencing and other office applications, internet connectivity via wireless and Ethernet connections, not to mention an array multimedia applications.

The advantage the Eee PC and other subnotebook/net book computers have over other portable computing devices is size, weight and cost.

The units demonstrated by the RSC West Midlands are the : Eee PC 4G and Eee PC 900

Potential uses for Teaching and Learning:

Typically the ASUS Eee PC should be used ideally as a secondary computing device. It is ideal for mobile computing, offering great flexibility and ideally should be used for short bursts at a time due to its size. It is ideal for impromptu collaborative exercises and research. Students and staff can create course materials, coursework and multimedia resources on-the-fly in any environment. Media objects and offices documents can be easily access and created using either (Open Office, ASUS Media Suite – Linux) or (Microsoft Works and Microsoft Media player and Movie Maker - Microsoft).

Pros and Cons

Cons

- Cost effective mobile computing device.
- Smaller than an A5 pad and weighing less than 1kg.
- Robust design.
- Packed with feature rich functionality including wifi, multimedia applications and web conferencing.
- Solid – state disc (virtually no heat emission).
- Intuitive user interface (especially the Linux version).

Pros

- Limited disc spaces (depending upon model), however additional storage can be installed.
- Small screen size.
- Small Keyboard.
- Units with Xandros operating systems may experience issues using Wireless networks.