

### What is BYOD?

Bring Your Own Device, or BYOD, is a technological trend in education and in the corporate world. BYOD recognises that technology and choices about technology are very much personal. BYOD acknowledges technology in education means more than meeting specific curriculum requirements. BYOD is designed to give you, as students and families, freedom to make technology choices that best suit you and your circumstances.

### Is participation in the BYOD program compulsory?

Yes. It is expected that all students in Years 7-12 will bring their own device to school from the beginning of 2019.

### What if we can't afford to purchase a device?

The Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program, like all BYOD programs in an education setting, inherently imposes a financial cost on students and their families in supplying a device. At the same time, the BYOD program can only function if all students have access to appropriate technological resources in all their classes. We want to ensure all students have access to the same learning outcomes irrespective of their families' financial means.

To this end, we have developed an Equity Policy, which aims to ensure all students have access to appropriate technological resources in their classes and provides a framework for family assistance requests to be managed consistently.

This Equity Policy will provide a 'safety net' when all other options have been exhausted. Families should keep in mind the following when looking at the cost of the device:

- The device will likely last the student 3-4 years. For a basic device meeting the requirements, this is less than \$100 per year.
- There are a number of financing and interest-free options available that will allow families to pay off the device on a monthly basis. The cheapest device listed on the school recommended portals works out at \$14.16 per month. However, you will always pay less for the device overall if you can afford to pay up front.
- The basic Chromebook will be sufficient for what students will be asked to do in class and families should not feel pressure to spend a lot of money on a device.
- Ask around, there may be people you know upgrading computers who could give or sell cheaply their old computers, provided that they meet the minimum requirements.

### I have multiple children in Secondary. Can they share a device?

No. Every student is expected to have their own device. If you are concerned about the cost of this please refer to the options outlined in the above question.

## **How long should I expect the device to last?**

We would expect that a student starting with a device in Year 7 will probably be considering upgrading their device in Year 10 or 11. This will obviously highly depend on the type of device selected in Year 7.

Students in Years 9/10 should really be considering a device which will see them through to Year 12. This may mean spending a little more to get the longevity out of the device.

## **Do I have to purchase a device from the school online portals?**

No. You are free to source your device from wherever you choose.

## **Can I have an iPad or tablet?**

Yes. However, it is highly recommended that, if you are intending on using an iPad or tablet, that you also purchase a keyboard which can connect with the device.

## **What's the difference between a laptop/notebook and a chromebook?**

Chromebooks run their own operating system developed by Google - ChromeOS - unlike Windows or Mac OS on a 'normal' laptop.

They are usually cheaper compared to 'normal' laptops since there isn't a lot of expensive hardware or software installed on the machine.

They make use of various web applications and extensions developed by Google as well as many third-party developers as you would find on the Chrome browser webstore.

A Chromebook relies heavily on the cloud for functionality - it will have very limited functionality if it is not connected to the internet.

A Chromebook will not run Adobe CS (this may be something to consider if your child is likely to need Photoshop etc for their Senior subjects).

## **When can students use their devices?**

During school times, devices may only be used in class when directed by the teacher. The devices are viewed as a learning tool and not to be used at recess or lunch time. When not in use, devices should be in bags, secured in lockers or kept in an approved storage area.

## **Will students be able to recharge their device during the day?**

While there will be some ability for students to charge devices in the classroom, the school is discouraging students from planning to recharge at school. For this reason, battery life is a key consideration in choosing appropriate technology. As stated in the device specifications, devices should have a battery life of at least 7 hours.

As part of the goal of becoming excellent digital citizens, students will be required to cultivate the habit of ensuring their devices are ready to go in the morning, often meaning an overnight charge.

## **Will students be able to print work from their device?**

The necessity to print should be minimalised due to electronic transfer of work between students and teacher.

However, where printing is necessary, resources will be provided to enable students to access printing from their device via the internet.

## **Is there particular software that my child will need on their device?**

Refer to the section 'Recommended Device Specifications / Software' in the BYOD Policy.

## **What happens if a student's device is not working during a class?**

In the first few weeks, there will be extra provision to assist with student passwords and accounts and general troubleshooting from the school ICT Team.

The ICT Team provides technical help for connecting to the school's wifi. Each student's device should be maintained by themselves.

It should be noted that the ICT support will be at specific times (Lunch and Recess), not during class.

The device should be viewed as another tool for students to use. If it is not working in a particular class, they will need to seek assistance from the ICT Team at the designated times.

It is the responsibility of the parents/carers to have any fault with the computer dealt with and to follow-up on warranties/repairs outside of warranty/or long-term replacement solutions etc.

## **What about the physical safety of the device at school?**

It is strongly encouraged that parents buy robust protective covers for their child's device to guard against damage from everyday wear and tear.

Parents are also strongly advised to consider including the device as a portable extra to their contents insurance. It should be noted that the School Insurance does not cover damage to personal devices. Where the damage is a result of mistreatment by another student, the school will deal with this situation in line with its Student Welfare Policy. However, this may not include the replacement of the device.

## **Will the student's use of the internet be monitored at school?**

All use of the school's network and internet is filtered and monitored. Student device web history is able to be tracked.

## **How will student usage be monitored in class?**

Students will only be using devices in class under teacher direction and instruction. Students will use their devices in a manner that allow teachers to view their screens as the teacher moves around the classroom.

Students who make a choice to use their devices inappropriately will be dealt with as a welfare issue in line with the Student Welfare Policy

## **Do parents have a right to know what is on their child's device?**

Appropriate transparency is beneficial for everyone and is a key element of Excellent Digital Citizenship. It is the school's position that parents have every right to access and view the material on their child's device. The school encourages parents to take an active role and to support the school, in the education of students in regards to avoiding illegal and/or inappropriate materials on their devices. Parents can also play an important role in encouraging their children to display appropriate online behaviours when using social media.

## **What happens if my child's device is not working on that day?**

If your child's device is not working that day, please write a note and arrangements can be made via the library to borrow an iPad for the day. It will be the child's responsibility to look after this device and to return it at the end of the school day.

It is the responsibility of the parents/carers to have any fault with the computer dealt with and to follow-up on warranties/repairs outside of warranty/or long-term replacement solutions etc.

## **What happens if a student has inappropriate material on their device (violent games, pornography, etc.), or are accessing things such as facebook during class time that take them off-task? Won't these devices lead to an increase in cyberbullying and inappropriate behaviour?**

A fundamental objective of a BYOD program is to help normalise the use of technology and to work with students in teaching excellent digital citizenship. The school has put in place a number of ongoing initiatives to educate students and parents in being safe and responsible in the use of ICT.

All students and parents must sign the Excellent Digital Citizenship Contract at the beginning of the school year. The contract will be made available in the BYOD Policy and on our school website.

Significant instances of misuse will be dealt with as a behaviour issue in line with the Student Discipline Policy. References to what is appropriate and inappropriate are also covered as part of the Excellent Digital Citizenship Contract signed by each student.

Where a student is using the device to access material that would constitute Serious Misconduct the device may be confiscated and handed over to Secondary School Administration.

Off-task use of the device during a learning task will be managed by the teacher in the first instance. Should there be an ongoing issue in this area where a student is not responding to teacher direction, it will then be viewed as an issue of behaviour and dealt with in line with the Student Welfare Policy.

## **Where can I access the BYOD Policy and Equity Policy?**

These policies will be available at the parent information sessions. They will also be available on our website after November 12, 2018.