NOWRA HIGH SCHOOL
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BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE FOR LEARNING POLICY (BYOD)

SCHOOL RATIONALE

How we learn, operate and present our understanding of content is evolving with our access to technology on a daily basis. Government schools adopted a one-to-one model under the Federal initiative referred to at a state level as the *'Digital Education Revolution'* between 2009 & 2012.

Over the last decade there has been continuing research and feasibility studies conducted about how one-to-one device programs enrich student learning experiences. There is an in-depth literature review available to help staff, parents and students understand how devices and learning frameworks have functioned in a series of pilots and also large-scale roll outs across the globe.
https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/related-documents/BYOD_2013_Literature_Review.pdf

OUR SCHOOL'S DIRECTION

Students enrolled in Year 7 and Year 8 at Nowra High School will require access to a Personal Computer Device to facilitate their learning during 2021. This will provide the opportunity for students to gain knowledge & skills as a Digital Citizen and allow regular access to technology as an authentic tool for learning. Students in Years 9 – 12 are not required to have a personal computer device in 2021, however, if they have access to a device that meets the required specifications they are strongly encouraged to bring and use this device while at school.

Nowra High School is committed to the principles of equity and will ensure that all students have regular, authentic access to technology devices and the same learning outcomes. If you believe you are unable to provide a device that meets the specification please contact the school to discuss arrangements to support your student in accessing a device while at school.

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FAQs

What is BYOD (Bring Your Own Device)?

BYOD involves students bringing a laptop, or similar device, that they own to school to use, either instead of, or alongside, an exercise book (each faculty will let you know any book requirements). BYOD is more than taking notes on a computer instead of in a book. It allows students to learn in new ways using today's workplace tools.

Why do we need a BYOD Program?

Research and government priorities agree that today's students need to be prepared for the current and future world of work. Traditional, knowledge based curriculum is insufficient to prepare them. Even the Department of Education is moving to using more "on line" communication and testing. Even the NAPLAN and HSC examinations are being considered for "on line" usage.

What will my students use their laptops for?

The answer is more than taking notes. They will be able to work collaboratively (even beyond school hours) undertake immediate research, have access to a large range of multimedia learning programs and understanding the tool they will use in everyday work life when they leave school. Most work can be submitted after hours from home, they can receive teaching assistance and feedback all on their personal storage drives to keep (there are many other examples).

What device will they need for the BYOD program?

Any laptop they can carry that can connect to the school network (specification can be found on the school website), have a battery life that will operate all day, have updated antiviral software.

Can I use an iPad, phone or Android device?

Students may already have a laptop you are happy that they bring to school OR you can purchase the device privately or using the Learning With Technologies Portal. Though iPads and Androids devices may connect to the network, experience has shown that they do not work for all applications, so for a few years at least they will not be suitable. Phones are too limited in ability and there is already too much inappropriate phone use so they will not be allowed to be a BYOD tool.

How much will it cost?

The devices the school is recommending will meet almost all of their learning needs. Where they do not, the school will have their own computers in some specialist rooms for student use. These computers run programs such as: coding, design, art and music software. These programs needed specialised computer to run them.

We are recommending purchasing devices using the Learning With Technologies Portal, however, if students already have access to a device, or you wish to purchase elsewhere, please ensure the device meets the device requirements available on the school website.

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NHS POLICY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS

1. DEFINITION

1.1   The term *'device'* refers to any mobile electronic technology, including assistive technologies, brought into the school, which is owned by the student, and which has the capability of connecting to the Department of Education (DoE) Wi-Fi network. Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) is an optional strategy.

2. ACCESS TO THE DoE WI-FI NETWORK AND RESOURCES

2.1   Internet access through the department's Wi-Fi network will be provided in classrooms at no cost to students who are enrolled at NHS.

2.2   Further technical details are provided in the 'Devices for BYOD' page.

3. ACCEPTABLE USE OF DEVICES

3.1   The principal will retain the right to determine what is, and is not, appropriate use of devices at NHS within the bounds of the DoE policies and NSW privacy and other legislation.

3.2   Students must comply with DoE and school policies concerning the use of devices at school while connected to the DoE Wi-Fi network.

3.3   Mobile phone voice and text, SMS messaging or device instant messaging use by students during school hours is a school-based decision.

3.4   Students should not attach any school-owned equipment to their mobile devices without the permission of the school principal or an appropriate staff member.

3.5   Students must not create, transmit, retransmit or participate in the circulation of content on their devices that attempts to undermine, hack or bypass any hardware and software security mechanisms that have been implemented by the DoE, its Information Technology Directorate or the school.

3.6   Students must not copy, transmit or retransmit any material that is protected by copyright, without prior permission from the copyright owner.

3.7   Students must not take photos or make video or audio recordings of any individual or group without the express written permission of each individual (including parent/caregiver consent for minors) being recorded and the permission of an appropriate staff member.

3.8   Students must not use the department's network services to seek out, access, store or send any material of an offensive, obscene, pornographic, threatening, abusive or defamatory nature is prohibited. Such use may result in disciplinary and/or legal action.

3.9   Students and their parents/caregivers must be advised that activity on the internet is recorded and that these records may be used in investigations, court proceedings or for other legal reasons.

3.10   Where a school has reasonable grounds to suspect that a device contains data which breaches the BYOD Student Agreement, the principal/delegate may confiscate the device for the purpose of confirming the existence of the material. Depending on the nature of the material involved, school disciplinary action may be appropriate or further action may be taken including

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referral to the police.

3.11   The consequences of any breaches of the school's BYOD policy will be determined by the principal in accordance with relevant Department policies and procedures and accepted school practice

4.   BYOD STUDENT AGREEMENT

4.1   NHS will maintain a register of agreements with students and their parents/caregivers, acknowledging their obligations under the school's BYOD policy and other relevant departmental policies.

4.2   Prior to connecting their devices to the department's Wi-Fi network, students must return a BYOD Student Agreement.

4.3   The BYOD Student Agreement must be agreed to by the student and by a parent/caregiver. If a student is living independently of their parents/caregivers or is 18 years of age or more, there is no requirement to obtain the signature of a parent/caregiver. Principals will make these determinations.

4.4   By accepting the terms of the BYOD Student Agreement, the student and parents/caregivers acknowledge that the student:

   4.4.1   agrees to comply with the conditions of the school's BYOD policy; and

   4.4.2   understands that noncompliance may result in disciplinary action.

5.   LONG-TERM CARE AND SUPPORT OF DEVICES

5.1   Students and their parents/caregivers are solely responsible for the care and maintenance of their devices.

5.2   Students must have a supported operating system and current antivirus software, if applicable, installed on their device and must continue to maintain the latest service packs, updates and antivirus definitions as outlined on the BYOD Student Responsibilities document.

5.3   Students are responsible for ensuring the operating system and all software on their device is legally and appropriately licensed. The department provides access to licensed software for each student, see the '*Software for BYOD*' page.

5.4   Students are responsible for managing the battery life of their device. Students should ensure that their devices are fully charged before bringing them to school. Schools are not responsible for providing facilities for students to charge their devices.

5.5   Students are responsible for securing and protecting their device in schools, and while travelling to and from school. This includes protective/carry cases and exercising common sense when storing the device. NHS is not required to provide designated or secure storage locations.

5.6   Students should clearly label their device for identification purposes. Labels should not be easily removable.

5.7   Students & Parents should understand the limitations of the manufacturer's warranty on their devices, both in duration and in coverage.

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6. DAMAGE AND LOSS

6.1   Students bring their devices onto the school site at their own risk. For advice on theft or damage of students' personal devices, schools should refer to the Legal Issue bulletins below:

> 6.1.1 Bulletin No. 8 - https://education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/legal-issues-bulletins/bulletin-8-claims-for-loss-of-or-damage-to-personal-property-and-use-of-private-motor-vehicles-by-staff--parents-and-students

> 6.1.2 Bulletin No. 35 - https://education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/legal-issues-bulletins/bulletin-35-misuse-of-technology-in-schools

6.2   In cases of malicious damage or theft of another student's device, existing school processes for damage to school or another student's property apply.

7. TECHNICAL SUPPORT

NHS is under no obligation to provide technical support for hardware or software. We may provide tutorial and peer support services to troubleshoot basic problems.

8. INSURANCE

Student devices are not covered by Treasury Managed Fund or school funds. Insurance is the responsibility of parents/caregivers and students.

9. DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

The DoE Digital Citizenship https://www.digitalcitizenship.nsw.edu.au/ website contains information to support security and device management.

10. ACCESS AND EQUITY

10.1   BYOD programs in an education setting, inherently imposes a financial cost on students and their families in supplying a device. The BYOD Program can only function effectively if all students have access to a device that meets the Device Specification.

10.2   To ensure access and equity for all students in years that are part of the BYOD program, NHS has established procedures for families to apply for assistance in obtaining access to a device that meets the suggested minimum device specifications.

10.3   If you believe you are unable to provide a device that meets the specification you may make an application using the link below or make an appointment to speak with the Principal, so that your particular case can be outlined. While the school won't purchase devices for students in the BYOD program there are several options available to provide assistance to students. These include:

> 10.3.1   Loan of a laptop or other device for a particular day.

> 10.3.2   Recurrent daily loan of a laptop or other device. You will be asked to make an agreement with the school that confirms the alternative arrangements made for your child's

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access to a device. For some students this will be facilitated through the Deputy Principal or Wellbeing Head Teacher, particularly in the creation of recurring loans over multiple weeks.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION POLICY REFERENCES

Parents and Students will need to agree to as part of the User Agreement. The following policies can be found by following the link below.

- Bring Your Own Device Policy
- Online Communication Services: Acceptable Usage for School Students

https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policy-groups/technology,-devices-and-the-internet?refid=285789

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