

29th November 2024

BYOD- Bring Your Own Device Program

Dear 2025 Stage 3 Parents,

From the commencement of 2016, Grays Point PS implemented a full BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) iPad model across Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6). Our vision was to encourage creative and innovative learning opportunities for students using BYOD as a tool to facilitate learning. We will be continuing this program in 2025 and, as such, your child will require a device next year.

We would encourage parents to consider BYOD if making technology purchases for children over the Christmas period, although existing devices are perfectly suitable if they meet our requirements (see below).

In 2016, we addressed issues such as equity (availability of BYOD devices for all students in Stage 3) as they arose and we are pleased to report that issues were minimal and easily overcome. We will continue to endeavour to ensure no child is disadvantaged in this program in 2025. Any concerns may be addressed to Mrs Betts-Smith.

What is BYOD?

Bring Your Own Device, also called bring your own technology, refers to the policy of permitting students to bring agreed upon electronic devices to school, and to use those devices to access school information and appropriate applications for learning.

Benefits of BYOD

Bring Your Own Device aims to improve students' learning experiences both in and out of the classroom. We believe that students and parents should have the flexibility to choose technology that aims to improve students' learning experiences both within the classroom and at home. It can allow students to carry a device that they are familiar with and that has relevant educational software and applications. It will function on the school's secure wireless network allowing students to continue to enrich their learning experience with relevant technologies.

Requirements of your BYOD

While we have historically suggested iPads for use at school, we understand that there are a variety of devices that would be suitable. We also note that this year Kirrawee High School has transitioned away from Stage 4 students (Years 7 & 8) bringing iPads to school to ALL students bringing a laptop device to school. Therefore we will support any device that students bring, however we would recommend it meet the following criteria:

Form Factor – Laptop, convertible device or tablet

Operating System – Microsoft Windows 11 or newer, Apple MacOS Sonoma, Chrome OS or iOS 18

Wifi – Device must have 5GHz 802.11n support or better. This may be advertised as “Dual Band Wireless”, “802.11abgn”, “802.11agn”, “802.11ac” or “Gigabit Wireless”.

Web Browser – computers must run a modern web browser such as Google Chrome, Safari or Microsoft Edge

Protection: A sturdy case and/or screen protector will be required on all devices.

Hardware Requirements: all devices require a microphone and camera + charger. We suggest laptops come with a minimum of 8Gb of RAM and recommend storage is SSD (Solid State Drive of at least 120Gb).

Educational Apps/Software:

The following apps/software will be required to be preloaded to your device. Many of them come with devices post sale or are free. Extra apps/software may be required during the year. We will advise in advance when these may be necessary.

Tablet	Mac/PC/Chromebook
Microsoft Teams	Microsoft Teams
Google Classroom	Minecraft Education Version
Google Drive	iMovie/Windows Moviemaker
Google Docs	Garageband (Mac only)
Google Sheets	
Google Slides	
Minecraft Education Version	
iMovie/Windows Moviemaker	
Garageband (iPad only)	
Google Chrome	
Canva	
ePlatform Digital Libraries	

Kind regards,

Narelle Betts-Smith
Principal