18 November 2015

BYOD Implementation

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The National Secondary School’s Computer Fund was a component of the Australian Federal Government’s Digital Education Revolution (DER) initiative. Included in this funding was the provision for every Year 9 student in NSW government schools to receive a laptop.

As you may be aware this initiative ended in 2013. Students in Year 9 in 2014 were not issued with a federally funded laptop for school and home use.

The availability of one laptop per student through the DER initiative created many opportunities for teachers to integrate technology more effectively into teaching and learning activities in the classroom.

As a school we have been examining what options may exist for continuing to provide our students with individual access to a computer device in the classroom. BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) is a program whereby students are permitted to bring to school a personal computer device that satisfies set specifications and is capable of connecting to the schools wireless network to support student learning at school and at home.

After consultation with the P&C and staff at Carlingford High we have decided to establish an optional BYOD program. Carlingford High school has selected a BYOD model that bests suits our school context, whereby students will be given the option to purchase or bring a device from home that meets the set of specifications determined by the school.

Students will be able to uses devices in the classroom under the direction and guidance of the teacher to complete classwork and assignments, access eBooks in subjects such as Mathematics and Science and access the student intranet and internet.

All students and parents will be required to sign the school BYOD policy agreement before a device can be used at school.

It is important that students and parents are aware of the following essential responsibilities before they decide to participate in the BYOD program.

- **Students are responsible for securing and protecting their own devices at school.** Students and their parents/caregivers are responsible for arranging their own insurance and should be aware of the policy and warranty conditions for their own device. The school does not accept responsibility for any loss or breakage.
- **Students are solely responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their devices.** This includes the backing up of data and updating of applications including anti-virus software. Any loss or damage to a device is not the responsibility of the school or Department.
- **Students’ devices may be confiscated and returned to parents if the school has reasonable grounds to suspect that a device contains data which breaches the BYOD student agreement.**
- **Please note that participation in the BYOD program is optional.**
- **Only devices that meet the required specifications can be used at school (see school specifications sheet).**

Please read the attached documents carefully and sign and return to school if you wish your child to participate in the BYOD program.

Yours sincerely,

David Krust
Principal
Carlingford High School BYOD Specifications

Essential

- Wireless must support 5GHz networks marketed as 802.11na (2.4GHz wireless is NOT compatible with the DER wireless)
- Must contain Windows 7 or later, or OSX Leopard 10.5.8 or later operating system (iOS, android and other mobile operating systems are not acceptable) this is required to install Microsoft Office which is provided by the department. Android devices will not work on the school’s wireless network.
- Minimum 64Gb storage on windows device
- Minimum screen size 9.8”
- Battery life of 5+ hours or a second detachable battery (the total battery capacity must last a full day at school as the school cannot guarantee students time/resources to charge their laptop, battery capacity will depend on the model influenced by screen size, processing speed, memory)
- Must contain a physical keyboard (either a laptop or tablet PC with detachable keyboard)
- Must contain antivirus software (at cost to the student)
- Insurance for accidental loss and breakage
- Google apps and Microsoft Office 365 will be available to DEC students through the students DEC portal. Students will be able to download these at no cost. Students will use a number of different devices in the classroom with different brands of software. For example a student may use Google Apps, Microsoft Office, Apple pages or Open Office Text document to perform word processing.

Recommended

- Large hard drive of 500GB+
- Maximum weight no more than 2kg
- Protective case
- Multiple USB ports for mouse and external storage
- 4GB+ RAM as a minimum
- Processor equivalent to an Intel i3 (1.8GHz) (or better)
- In order to use the Adobe suite (provided by the department) must include a 64bit operating system, Intel Core2 Duo or AMD Phenom II processor, 1200x800 display and a large size hard drive (500GB+). It is also recommended the device has 8GB of RAM and a dedicated graphics card (1GB+)

Other considerations when purchasing a device include:

- Extended warranty
- Device insurance
- Protective casing ( scratch/impact/liquid-splash resistant)
- Additional /spare battery packs
- Ergonomics ( comfortable to use and not too heavy)
- Back up storage such as portable hard drive or USB flash drive