SENIOR STUDENT BYOD FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions

What options does my child have for bringing a mobile device to school?
Students have two options:

A) The preferred option that most families choose is to purchase one of the devices from the Student Laptop Program. The included devices are carefully selected to suit the student's age, usage and a range of budgets. When families choose from the school list, they have peace of mind that the device is loaded with all required software, configured correctly; and is ready to go with the capacity to meet the ICT demands of all our academic programs and activities. This is mandatory for all students in Years 7-9. See Student Laptop Program for more details.

B) Senior students (Years 10-12) can elect to bring another laptop device but it must be running Microsoft Windows 10 and meet the BYOD Device Specifications and Minimum System Requirements*. Other devices cannot have the school image loaded but they can access the school Wi-Fi and they will be able to print.

Can my child bring a tablet device instead of a laptop/netbook?
Whilst tablet devices have their place in education, as a primary device, many schools have found there is difficulty with software compatibility, document production and printing. Consideration should also be given to the robustness of a student device. Tablet devices are more easily damaged than Laptop devices, often requiring expensive replacement than repair alternatives. We would recommend families choose a Laptop or 2-in-1 option in preference over those devices with detachable keyboards and other fragile design features.

How is our BYOD device connected to the school network?
Our IT Service Team will oversee this process. Devices purchased through the Student Laptop Program will have the school image uploaded and automatically be configured to provide access to the school network, the internet and printers.

Students with devices not on the school list will be given access to the internet, printers and online storage through their Office365 account.

Frequently Asked Questions continued

What happens if my child's BYOD device is damaged, lost, or stolen?

Like any personal item brought to school, the security of the device and its care is the responsibility of the student. Prevention is better than cure. Computers are fragile devices and therefore, we insist that all students utilise a robust case to transport their device. When things go wrong however, please be aware that the school does not have insurance to cover loss or damage to personal items belonging to students. We strongly recommend purchasing Accidental Damage Protection which can be purchased from a number of insurance companies. IT Services staff are limited in the support they can provide for BYOD devices in relation to hardware damage. Families will need to contact their point of purchase for further advice and to process a damage or warranty claim.

Short Term Loans:

The school has Laptops available for short term loan, from the IT Services Centre, for those times when the student's own device is being repaired. Students participating in the Student Laptop Program have priority. Loan periods which extend beyond one week will incur additional charges.

Who is responsible for downloading software and apps for the BYOD device?

Upon completion of a 'Laptop Exemption User Agreement' and payment of the $199 BYOD levy, students will be provided with access to Microsoft Office and Adobe Suite software. For apps, we recommend that parents manage this and download the applications for their child on an as need basis. We advise against linking a credit card to the Office365 account to avoid accidental purchases such as in-game upgrades etc. Gift cards can be purchased to buy apps. An annual ICT Levy of $99 will apply for subsequent year's licensing of the Microsoft Office and Adobe Suite software.

Do I need to buy additional software for the device?

Devices purchased through the Student Laptop Program will not require the purchase of any additional software. The school will put an image on the device which contains all the software – free of charge. Additional software, other than the school software, can be added as you choose.

All software used by devices which connect to the school network must be properly licensed. See Student Laptop User Agreement for more details.

Who can I talk to about this?

If you require further information please contact IT Services via phone (5622 6148) or email (**itsupport@stpaulsags.vic.edu.au**).