



Bring Your Own Device - Frequently Asked Questions

What will happen if we decide not to send in a device?

Students who do not have their own device will continue to have access to school owned devices that have always been provided. BYOD is optional and will always be. We are a well-resourced school with a wide range of technologies available to students and teachers. This means that students who do not have devices will have more opportunities to use classroom equipment as the ratio of those that need access to it decreases with others using their own device. Our current ratio is 1:2.5. Students will still continue to learn in a 21 Century learning style and will not be disadvantaged.

What type of devices are suitable?

We are aware of our local college requirements for BYOD. We do not wish parents to spend a significant amount of money for our BYOD programme on a device that may not meet their college of choice requirements. Therefore for the trial we recommend a device already owned by the family/student that meets the following requirements:

- In terms of Year 8, consider aligning the device to one they can use at their Y9 college (*we suggest you check with the college*):
- Battery Life - long enough to get through a school day without recharging
- Size - must be suitable for prolonged word processing (*no smartphones or mini tablets*)
- Weight - light enough for your child to carry easily
- Wireless Access - must have wireless access to the internet (*3G and 4G devices must have the SIM card removed before coming to school*)
- Speed - devices need to be modern and fast enough to avoid frustration
- Must be able to access Google Apps for Education (GAFE) either via app or Chrome web browser (*students must be logged into Chrome, with their GAFE account, for Hapara Teacher Dashboard security purposes*)
- Laptops - must have up-to-date anti-virus software
- A full keyboard (not on screen) is preferable but not essential
- No gaming hardware such as PSPs (*Playstation Portable*).

If you do intend to purchase a device then we recommend a Chromebook as they are less expensive, work seamlessly with the Google environment, have cloud-based storage, automatically complete software updates without disruption, are lightweight and have less on-device distractions. We have a number of suppliers who may have discounts available.

What safeguards does school put in place?

Education plays a key part in developing safe students. Digital Citizenship is embedded in our class programmes for every student. We have also invested in **Hapara Teacher Dashboard** which enables our teachers to monitor the activity of students when logged into their Google account. Every student bringing a device to school is required to review and sign a safety agreement before they can be connected to our school network, clarifying the high expectations we have for their conduct.

When will my child use a BYOD device?

Developing independent and self-directed learners is very important to our school and students will be the main drivers of when the devices will be the most effective learning tool. Common uses are for developing written or visual presentation ideas and collaborating on projects. Research is another frequently used context for the devices. However, there will be times when students are actively directed to use the technology. This will be when other school-based devices are available. Our teachers have had extensive professional development in learning with digital technologies and in 21 century learning design and are able to support the students through making good choices about device use.

How long will my child spend on their device?

Students will enjoy learning both with their devices and also with more traditional means of learning as both are valid. Students will also be encouraged to take breaks from their screen in what is considered good practise for this type of learning. Students will not be permitted to use personal devices unless the teacher is able to monitor the



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usage. Glendowie promotes being well-balanced and using our outdoor environment. Therefore students will generally not have access to their devices during morning tea and lunch breaks.

Will the use of these devices in classrooms cause my child to be distracted or engage in dangerous behaviour?

As with school owned devices, personal devices at school will be solely used for educational purposes. Our current learners are more engaged and motivated by this type of learning. As with all learning styles, teachers will also have procedures and guidelines in place for ensuring that learning is happening. Our students are living in a digital world with ubiquitous access to technology and we need to prepare them for their future. By allowing BYOD we open the door to authentic dialogue of how to use technology appropriately and develop their strategies for responsible internet use and safety.

How is access to potentially harmful material limited at school?

As with all internet use at Glendowie School, there is a filter that blocks visiting sites with a potentially harmful nature. This system is far more robust than what is ordinarily in place in the home setting. Network for Learning (N4L) is a Ministry initiative which provides our internet and filtering service. Google also pushes students through Safe Searching, using their own filters. Teacher Dashboard allows teachers to monitor students' emails and correspondence in the Google suite so as to limit potential negative behaviour and exposure here. The Responsible Use Agreement that students and parents sign has very clear guidelines for what to do if and when an issue occurs. If a security breach or misuse occurs, this is used as an important authentic learning opportunity, as these things may occur both inside and outside of school. Students need to be prepared for how to deal with such situations.

How will the device be kept safe at school?

Our BYOD classrooms have procedures in place for looking after devices - where to place the device when they are not in use or students are out of the classroom. Although every effort is taken to keep devices safe by both the students and the teachers, the overall responsibility lies with the student to follow these procedures to ensure the safety of their device. Families purchasing devices are strongly encouraged to purchase an insurance plan as the school will not be liable for any damage or breakages to the BYOD devices. All insurance (theft and damage) should be covered by the owner of the device. Owners should check with their insurance company as to the cover that they have under their existing policy. Students will not be permitted to loan their, or use another's, personal device. The sole responsibility lies with the student.

Please note: your child's personal device will not be covered by the school's insurance policy.

Will Glendowie School provide technical support for a personal device?

In general, no. When students bring their own devices they become the experts of the technology and they can help each other. Teachers focus in on the educational use of the technology. However Ms Cable and Mr Foley will assist where they can with connections and GAFE accounts but not the maintenance or updating of software. Students using family owned devices should have their own login where possible and have the necessary apps installed ready for learning to take place.

How will you ensure the appropriateness of videos / pictures / files etc that may already be on personal devices?

We cannot. However Digital Citizenship will continue to be explicitly taught. Units of Inquiry will be reviewed to ensure teaching and learning programmes include cybersafety and what is and isn't appropriate. Students signed into Google Chrome appear in the teacher's Hapara Teacher Dashboard where we can see student activity. Any documents, images saved to their Google Drive can be accessed by the teachers via Hapara. Currently we deal with issues as they happen with speed and efficiency. We take these as a opportunities to revisit our Responsible Use Procedure with our students.

How are you going to ensure the ongoing collaboration between students if they are all going to be looking at their own devices?

Glendowie School is committed to developing 21st century skills in our students. It has been the professional development focus for our teachers for the past 2 years. Through careful learning design, our units of inquiry will continue to focus on creativity, communication and critical thinking through authentic problem solving. In order to achieve this, students must work collaboratively and make substantive decisions together. Therefore, students must be speaking with each other, sharing, and bouncing ideas. Naturally there will be times when individuals are engrossed in their own task. This is no different to pre-devices when students were focussed on their books.