

BYOD

Bring Your Own Device

What is BYOD

Bring Your Own Device, also called "Bring Your Own Technology", refers to the policy of permitting students to bring personally owned devices (laptops, tablets) to school, and to use those devices to access school information and appropriate applications for learning.

It should be emphasized that BYOD is **OPTIONAL**. The device will only be used some of the time in the classroom and students will need to bring their workbooks as normal.

Why is Denison College Going BYOD

From 2009 - 2013 we saw the rollout of the Digital Education Revolution (DER) program of laptops to NSW schools. With the ending of the funding for the DER program, NSW schools are adopting the BYOD model to enable students to have continued access within all classrooms.

In order to facilitate the successful integration of technology within the classroom the NSW Department of Education and Communities (DEC) has continued relationships with major software providers such as Adobe and Microsoft. From early 2015 school students will be able to install selected software for free on one compatible device per student.

In addition, there are new developments which will enable students to use technologies that are web based with the use of the Cloud (off site storage), such as full integration of Google Apps with student email accounts and the availability of Office 365.

Benefits of BYOD

Bring Your Own Device aims to improve students' learning experiences both in and out of the classroom. Denison College believes that students and parents should have the ability to choose technology that enables effective use of that technology within the classroom.

It can allow students to carry a device that students are familiar with and that has relevant educational software and applications. It will function on the College's secure wireless network allowing students to continue to enrich their learning experience with relevant technologies.

Requirements of your BYOD

In order to have an effective BYOD management within the College it is necessary that all BYOD devices conform to minimum specifications. This is to enable all students, regardless of the device type they have purchased, to be able to work collaboratively in a class situation. There is, however, the opportunity for students to use BYO devices, that reflect their individual needs. Please find on the following pages the minimum BYO device requirements and specific Denison College information regarding BYOD timelines and individual device advantages.



Denison College BYOD Implementation

Timeline of adoption

In 2015 the college will be trialling and implementing various BYOD technologies. NSW schools for 2015 have significant changes happening in terms of initiatives such as Google Apps, integration with student email accounts (due in late 2014), software availability for BYO devices and schools having upgraded network functionality. At this stage we anticipate moving to a full BYOD model in the College from the commencement of 2015. We would encourage parents to consider BYOD if making technology purchases for children from 2014. Full implementation is planned for 2015 onwards.

We will address issues such as equity (the availability of BYOD for all students) and teacher professional development during 2015.

What Device should I get to be part of BYOD

There is no one answer to these questions. At Denison College, we are not adopting a 'single device model', (ie iPads or Windows laptops for everybody). Neither have we adopted an 'anything goes model' (which could mean any electronic device including phones).

We have adopted a 'Middle Road Model' so that as long as your device meets certain minimum requirements it will be satisfactory. This will allow parents and students the flexibility to choose a device that suits their needs and will assist in your child's needs and ambitions.

We have specified certain features such as physical keyboards and minimum screen size to enable more ergonomic and productive use. We have also not recommended 3G devices as these require costly plans and are not secure.

It is hard to anticipate all future technology developments but the following devices all have their own advantages and features. All the following devices are suitable for Internet or Web based computing and applications which is becoming the dominant platform.

Students who have ambitions in Photography, Digital Media, Graphics, Video Editing or Programming may be better suited in getting a Laptop device, however, there are many great Internet tools available for carrying out these functions whether or not you decide to purchase a laptop. Keep in mind, the DEC's provision of Adobe software to students for free will require a Windows/Macintosh laptop device or a Windows 8 tablet device.

All BYOD devices must meet minimum standards to be able to work safely and effectively on the College's secure wireless network. The following features outline the requirements.



Wireless Connectivity

Any 802.11a/b/g/n support.



Battery Life

Devices need to last the school day. Minimum 6 hours battery life.



Form Factor

Laptop, tablet device or convertible device such as a Windows Surface device.

A tablet device must have a physical keyboard attached.



Screen Size

At least 9.7" (iPad size)

Ensure that the screen is of reasonable size to use throughout the school day.



Other Hardware Features

Camera and Microphone.



Memory and RAM

16GB Storage 2 GB RAM (4Gb Laptops).

To be able to store and process data effectively these minimum specifications are recommended.

Consider Solid State Hard Drives (more robust and start up faster).

Other Essentials Accessories

Case - Needs to be tough and sturdy; can it be dropped without breaking?

Weight - Suggested under 2Kg

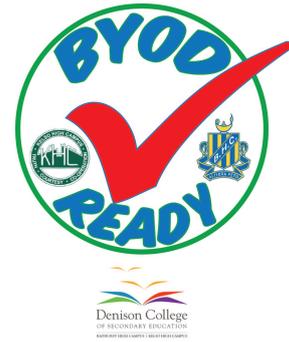
Keyboard - A supplementary keyboard for tablet devices

Insurance - Need for some insurance cover

Warranty - extended warranty to be considered

Specific Features of Various Devices

If the devices are being purchased from local vendors in Bathurst (Harvey Norman, Dick Smith, Good Guys, and Bing Lee) this sticker will be displayed on devices that meet our specifications.



Whilst all devices that meet the minimum specification will be suitable as BYO devices, it is suggested that specific devices have advantages depending upon intended student needs.

The following is a brief overview of device features:

- **Windows 7/8 Laptop and Windows 8 Tablet:** Able to run Office and Adobe suites. Good for Photography, Graphics, Digital Media, Video Editing and Programming.
- **Mac OS X Laptop:** Able to run Office and Adobe suites. Good for Photography, Graphics, Digital Media, Video Editing and App Development.
- **Apple iPad:** Proven portable, lightweight device. Productivity apps available for word processing, spreadsheet, databases garage band and presentation software. Excellent battery life.
- **Google Chromebook:** A 'browser only' laptop that can be cheaper than a standard laptop. Relies on web based applications such as Google Chrome browser and Google apps for productivity.
- **Android Tablets:** These may be a cheaper option, however, you need to ensure that they meet the minimum specifications.

We will be posting updated device suitability on our campus websites as information becomes available and new model information is released.

If you have any questions please contact your relevant Campus of Denison College for further advice or information.

For further information contact

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