



# WOLLONGONG PUBLIC SCHOOL

67a Church Street, Wollongong 2500

[Wollongong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Wollongong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Phone: 4228 9120

Principal: Mr Harold Cosier

19 November 2018

## 2019 BYOD iPads Program

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program will continue for all Year 5 and 6 students at Wollongong Public School in 2019. This allows students to bring a personally owned device to school for learning and school related activities. The BYOD program is accompanied with clear and stringent policies and procedures, which all parties commit to. The school will supply a small number of school owned devices for students who do not have a device to use in the classroom.

Our focus of a BYOD program at the school is to provide quality education to maximise every learning opportunity and shape our students' future through high quality teaching and learning. Technology is an effective tool to assist us when teaching your children. It does not replace teaching or change the curriculum and students will still focus on the key skills they need to develop in primary school. BYOD trials over the past years have shown improved levels of communication and connectedness between students, teachers and parents. Access to devices helps improve their engagement levels, improves access to information, develops a broader base of skills and allows teachers to be innovative with their teaching and learning activities.

Future focused learning requires students to acquire the skills of **how to learn**. Our goal is to prepare students across all curriculum areas and learning stages with skills and capabilities to thrive in a rapidly changing and interconnected world. We are aiming to help connect students and engage their sense of curiosity. We need to support students to develop a love of learning. Throughout this process, we focus on the key 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills of **Collaboration, Critical Thinking, Communication, Creativity and Problem Solving** to assist our students to prepare for their future.

As educators we need to ensure that we have high quality, engaging and innovative classroom practice as this leads to improved student learning outcomes. Having access to BYOD devices allows students the opportunity to have more autonomy over their own learning, which is where we see them develop as learners. It is vital that teachers know and understand the needs and talents of our students. We need to be flexible and select from a range of effective teaching strategies, shifting towards facilitating student learning rather than solely teaching.

### Device

As a school we decided to purchase iPads to support student learning at the end of 2017. In 2018, we had a range of devices brought to school for student use and our experience showed that a small laptop or iPad are the models that connect to our network easily. Android devices such as Samsung tablets, often had connectivity issues which limited their use. Therefore we encourage you to consider either of the following options to support your child's learning.

When purchasing an iPad, please consider the following specifications:

<b>Suggested Model:</b>	iPad 9.7 (Cheapest base model) or above
<b>Operating System:</b>	IOS 10 or above
<b>Memory:</b>	32 gig or above
<b>Wireless:</b>	Built in Wi-Fi
<b>Additional:</b>	Case that is tough and sturdy with a Keyboard attached
<b>Please Note:</b>	iPad's with iOS 9.3.5 and below will not be supported at all

When purchasing a laptop, please consider the following specifications:

<b>Performance:</b>	Look for, Intel Core™ i3, Core™ i5 and Core™ i7 in Windows machines
<b>Memory:</b>	At least 128GB of storage in laptops, ultra books and two-in-ones
<b>Wireless:</b>	Make sure it has 2.4Ghz or 5Ghz dual band wireless to access the school network
<b>Additional:</b>	Case that is tough
<b>Size:</b>	Lightweight- Aim for under 1.5kg
<b>Battery:</b>	Make sure it lasts for the 6-hour school day

### Organisation and Student Education

- Significant Education in Term 1:
  - BYOD Charter;
  - Digital Citizenship will be immersed in curriculum across the year;
  - Students will be taught appropriate responsible use;
- It is the students' responsibility to bring their device into school every day;
- BYOD Charter and Policy will be sent home at the beginning of the year and implemented with clear strategies for students, teachers and parents;
- Police visit throughout the year to discuss cyber safety and online responsibilities;
- Access to the Internet is under the same student restrictions as a computer at school through DEC Wi-Fi;
- If you choose an iPad, students will need to have an Apple ID which Apple suggest you set up using family sharing (<https://support.apple.com/en-au/HT201088> );
- Students bring their property to school at their own risk but we recommend home contents insurance; and
- Classes will have access to iPads for students to use if they do not have one. These will only be available at school (not take-home).

### Troubleshooting

- Students will become Techsperts to assist others;
- Teacher support; and
- Specialist staff.

### Digital Citizenship

The Internet, and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) play an increasingly important role in children's learning, and in the administration of Wollongong Public School. All BYOD policies specifically consider digital citizenship and the skills needed to be taught across the year. As part of the Wollongong PS BYOD program, we aim to:

- Educate staff, students, parents and community members about Digital Citizenship issues;
- Provide guidance regarding the safe and responsible use of ICT at Wollongong PS;
- Inform staff, students, parents and community members of their obligations and responsibilities with regards to the safe and responsible use of ICT in accordance with the Wollongong PS BYOD policy; and
- Outline the nature of possible consequences associated with breaches of the Wollongong PS BYOD policy which may undermine the safety of the school's environment.

As a NSW Public School, Wollongong Public School is committed to delivering high quality educational outcomes for all students using future focused pedagogies and facilitating 21st Century skills. Wollongong Public School recognises the need to prepare students for a rapidly-changing world, where technology plays a large role in our personal, social and professional lives. If you have any comments, concerns or celebrations please do not hesitate to contact the school or myself directly. [matt.richards5@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:matt.richards5@det.nsw.edu.au)

We greatly appreciate the support the school community provides and we are looking forward to working together to ensure the best outcomes for our students.

Kind Regards,

Matt Richards  
Assistant Principal

Harold Cosier  
Principal