Digital Devices Brought from Home for Primary School Class Use

Bishop Druitt College Primary School has been building an environment that reflects the current technological trends in education and the corporate world. BDC values the rich learning experiences that technology brings to the classroom and recognises the importance of the digital technologies rollout in education. So far we have sufficient iPads and Chromebooks to service all classrooms. The new technology of Promethean Boards has been installed in all Stage 1 classrooms and new large screen televisions with connectivity have been installed in all other classrooms.

With these new technologies available our teachers continue to implement a digital curriculum. It has now become apparent that the best way forward for supporting 21st century student learning is a continuing optional, yet strongly encouraged ‘bring your own technology’ (BYOT) model in Years 5 and 6. This is a transition for students to the understanding of how to manage their own devices that are compulsory in high school. The Stage 3 teaching staff is highly motivated to support parents and students in the continued promotion of BYOT and the dedicated teaching opportunities that it affords our senior primary students.

Whilst our primary school will continue to allocate funding for technology, including class access to iPads and ChromeBooks, the benefits that a personalised device affords for senior students are significant. Also please note that, thanks to our initiative of fundraising within the primary school community and the support of our parent body, we have been able to build an ever-growing collection of STEAM-related materials such as Beebots, Spheros, Edisons, Ozobots and green screen recording facilities. We aim to continue to build upon this library at every opportunity and envision that the BYOT model in Years 5 & 6 will complement these resources.

This document is a contract that we will adhere to within our primary school. Please note that students who cannot bring in outside technology will have full access to utilise the school’s equipment. No student will be left out of our instruction.

Senior Primary School Digital Device Policy and Contract

Definition of ‘Technology’
For the purposes of BYOT, ‘technology’ means a privately owned wireless-enabled portable computer or tablet device that can be used for word processing, internet access, image access, image capture/recording, sound recording and information transmitting, receiving and storage.

1. Such devices may be brought to school by students in Year 5 and 6 after a copy of this policy has been signed and dated by the parent, class teacher and student. These devices may then be used only at the direction of the class teacher for activities linked to class learning programs. This policy will be reviewed as necessary in collaboration with Year 5 and 6 students and parents. Changes will be published to parents via email.
2. Students are responsible for the care of their devices. While the school will support students to manage their individual devices, the final responsibility will rest with each student. Devices are to remain in a locked classroom during recess and lunch. They may be used during recess and lunch during wet weather at the teacher’s discretion. Students are not to use their device in bus lines.

3. The student will assume responsibility for entering the school proxy server details as required into their device network settings in order to access the internet through the school’s cyber safety filters. Internet access through the school’s wireless network will be provided to students free of charge.

4. Mobile phone voice and text use by students during the school day is still prohibited by this policy. We do not utilise mobile phones for educational purposes and do not encourage students to bring them to primary school unless for personal reasons or on trips to and from school. These can be kept securely locked in classrooms during the day.

5. Students agree to only view, listen to, or access, school appropriate content on their computer devices while at school. Due to copyright, content such as music is not to be transferred to other devices or the school’s computer network. The Head of Primary (Mrs Lisle) retains the right to be the final arbitrator of what is, and is not, appropriate content.

6. Consequences for breach of this policy will be determined by the Head of Primary and may include banning an individual student from bringing their mobile device to school.

7. Taking photos, video or an audio recording of any individual or group is not allowed without the express permission of all of the individuals being recorded. These recordings are not to be accessed at school without directly seeking teacher permission. Use of Youtube is to be exclusively for educational purposes.

8. Students are responsible for bringing their devices to school fully charged and labelled for identification.

9. Any activity on the school computer network that is related to ‘hacking’, altering or bypassing security settings is in violation of the BDC policy and will result in disciplinary action.

10. Parents will monitor content being downloaded on their child’s device to ensure that it is school appropriate.

11. The teacher will monitor the use of devices used in their classroom to do their best to ensure that students are using them appropriately and as directed.

12. Under no circumstances are Tiktok videos to be created whilst at school.

Karin Lisle
Assistant Principal - Head of Primary
Reviewed 22 January 2019
I have read the BDC Primary School Digital Device Policy and will adhere to all the requirements:

Parent name & signature:

______________________________________ Date: ______________

Student name & signature:

______________________________________ Date: ______________

Class teacher name & signature:

______________________________________ Date: ______________

Please return this last page to your class teacher before bringing your device to school. The policy can be kept for quick reference at home.