FAQ

- **Does my child *need* their own device?**

BYOD is a school policy that enhances digital capacity in students to ready them for the future workplace. Students bringing a device will make learning deeper, more personalised and student-centred. While the school has a small number of older devices, most students will find having their own device much more convenient and productive. The sense of ownership promotes responsibility and allows students to be self-reliant and organised.

- **Will my child be disadvantaged if they do not have their own device?**

Beginning in 2021, we will be encouraging students to become self-reliant and prepared to use technology in more engaging and relevant ways. We are launching our BYOD program in full to years 7, 11 and 12, however students in other years are welcome to BYOD after signing the student agreement.

- **Will there be financial help for support for families who cannot BYOD?**

If families are unable to provide a device due to financial constraints, the school has a tiered process of support. Please make contact with HT Technology and BYOD - Mr Andrew Curry - to discuss our loan options.

- **Won't students just play games?**

Staff are aware of students who do not complete tasks and they will be managed through the student management system.

- **Why not use a book and pen, like they always have?**

Students will still require books and pens. ASC is moving towards integrating digital platforms and online classrooms to facilitate and reinforce learning. Teachers are more familiar with Microsoft and Google platforms since remote learning and these will be used in our daily learning programs.

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Armidale Secondary College

Our Future. Our Learning.

Bring Your Own Device 2021

Bring Your Own Device - BYOD

BYOD refers to students bringing a personally owned technology device to school for the purpose of learning. The laptop must be able to connect to the school WiFi and have the necessary software and apps installed.

DEVICE SPECIFICATIONS

- **Wireless connectivity** - Devices must support 5GHz dual band: 802.11 n wireless to connect to the school WiFi.
- **Battery life** - Devices must last at least 6 hours without charge to last the school day.
- Students should not bring chargers to school.
- **Memory and RAM** - Devices must have a minimum 16 GB storage and 4GB RAM to save work and an appropriate working speed.
- **Operating system** - Ideally, the current operating systems should be installed to access the latest software/apps and updates.
- **Hardware features** - Devices must have a physical keyboard. Headphones should be brought for listening to audio. Students may also find a mouse, microphone, webcam, or stylus helpful - but not required.
- **Protective Case**

SOFTWARE & APPS

Devices must have software or apps that allow:
- ✦ Internet browsing
- ✦ Word processing and note taking
- ✦ Creating spreadsheets
- ✦ Creating presentations

Students can download FREE Microsoft and Adobe software for laptops at http://bit.ly/byodsoftware

Active antivirus software must be installed. Windows 10 however includes Windows Defender Antivirus.

Please see school website for purchasing portals and further information.

RESPONSIBILITY

Students are responsible for their own device. The school will take reasonable precautions to protect student devices, but ultimately cannot be held responsible for any damage to, or loss of BYOD technology.

When purchasing devices parents may have the option to purchase an insurance policy from the supplier or relevant insurance company.

> **We empower our students to be active and engaged citizens**