BYOD QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Bring Your Own Device

BYOD is for students in Year 11, 12 and 13 levels of the school.

Ours is a **blended e-learning approach.** We use a blend of traditional approaches to teaching and learning, as well as using ICT to support and facilitate learning. Pen and paper are still used part of the time in BYOD classes.

Year 11, 12 and 13
ALL students in Year 11, 12 and 13 will require their own device in class.

Parents and students may have many questions about the BYOD programme and how it is being implemented at Taieri College. The following questions and answers might be helpful in clearing up some of your queries:

Why implement a BYOD programme?

BYOD, where the device is owned by the student and goes home with them every day, allows for **anywhere, anytime learning**. We are using Office 365 which allows students to save their work to the Cloud so it cannot be lost, and can be accessed from home or any other computer with Internet access. There is the potential for collaboration between students, and further opportunities and new methods for teachers to provide feedback to students. It also provides opportunities to communicate and share their learning in a way that will prepare them for the future. Much of the course delivery, files and assignments will be delivered using the Microsoft Teams application, in conjunction with the rest of the Office 365 package.

Many of our students already use digital devices outside of school to communicate and learn. We have seen the benefits of integrating these with our school resources so that the potential of these devices can be used to enhance learning further and become an important part of their learning toolkit.

How do I choose an appropriate device?

There are many appropriate devices available and the school is not prescribing a particular device. We do have minimum specifications.

If your current device already meets our minimum specifications, your son/daughter may use it as their BYOD device.

Minimum specification for devices:

- 10 – 15 inch screen
- At least 5 hours of battery power
- Run windows 10 or Mac OSX (NOT Chromebooks)
- Must have enough storage to download and install Office 365 - Minimum 64Gb SSD
- Internet capable (Wifi connectivity – 801.11N/ac preferred)
- Physical (not just on-screen) keyboard
- Suitable, durable bag/cover for protection

Along with these **strongly recommended features**:

- A PDF Reader like Adobe Reader – free to download
- Antivirus & Malware protection
- Accidental Cover (damage, theft, burglary, loss)

What other factors should be considered?

Is the device suitable for school use? It should be robust and durable enough to handle school life, but light enough to be carried around easily by a teenager.

Students doing DVT, MUS, MED, ARD and APH should ensure machines are capable of running the specialist programs used. Please check with your teachers.

Where can I purchase an appropriate device?

Some local vendors are – Cyclone (via online portal Password: green2019), BC Systems, Mosgiel Computer Shop, Noel Leeming, Harvey Norman, JB HiFi, as well as PB Tech - online.
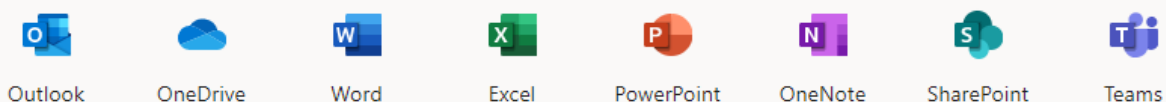
PB Tech and insite.co.nz also offer exlease laptops.

Parents are not obliged to purchase their devices from these vendors, but please make use of our minimum specifications when making your choice and consider the after sales service and arrangements for when a device needs repairs.

Why can't my son/daughter use a smartphone as a device?

While smartphones are wonderful for communicating and many short internet searches, the size of the screen makes it unsuitable as a serious tool for learning, and the ability to complete lengthy documents is very limited.

What about software and apps?

The school is using Office 365 and as part of our school package, all our students will be able to download and install O365 on up to five supported devices free of charge while they are students at Taieri College.

There are other free apps that teachers may explore to support aspects of learning.

What about the security of the device at school?

Lockers are available for students to store their devices when not in use, during Physical Education, and after school if participating in co-curricular activities. When classes attend assemblies, they will need to follow the procedures for safe storage of their device – locking their bag in their lockers. Students are responsible for the safety of their devices and for following these procedures.

Each student needs to protect the device with a password and have the device appropriately labelled.

What about on-line safety and cyberbullying?

Two of the Taieri College core values are Respect and Responsibility, and these form the foundation for ICT use and interacting with others digitally. Our Responsible Use Agreement signed by every student and a parent on the enrolment form sets the expectations for students and parents. This may be viewed on our college website.

What about families who can't afford to purchase a device?

Families may be able to gain assistance from WINZ to purchase a device. A limited number of devices may be available in some rooms for use during class time.

How will misuse be handled?

We have a well-developed Pastoral Care system including a detailed cybersafety agreement that shows how misdemeanours will be dealt with.

Categories of misuse are based on levels of seriousness, and misuse will be dealt with by the classroom teacher, unless it is serious enough to be referred to the Dean or Senior Leadership Team. Classroom management involving devices will not be very different from more traditional approaches – just as a teacher might require students to put down their pens and listen fully to instructions, the instruction might be "Lids down, and listen to instructions."

Ongoing misuse of a device will fall into the category of "continual deliberate disobedience" and would result in the same consequences as other examples of disobedience.

Instances of serious misuse of devices, such as accessing inappropriate websites or cyberbullying will be taken very seriously and dealt with accordingly. This may involve loss of internet access, internal removal, stand down or suspension or referral on to police. Students using their devices to access the internet through the school wi-fi will be tracked and monitored and inappropriate websites including those identified as being associated with cyberbullying are blocked.
While the majority of cyberbullying occurs out of school time, it should still be brought to our attention at any time as we will certainly do whatever we can to support the victim. It must be noted however that students who use their own data on devices such as smart phones still have full access to the internet.

What is my son/daughter responsible for at school?

- Using all ICT according to our responsible user agreement.
- Displaying digital citizenship.
- Following the teachers' instructions around the use of devices.
- Charging the device at home.
- Saving work and backing up to the Cloud.
- Safe-keeping of the device when not in use.
- Carrying the device in his/her school bag from class to class.
- Ensuring that the device is divided into "school space" and "personal space".

If you have BYOD queries, please contact our Assistant Principal,
Mr Lyndon Jones   ljones@taieri.school.nz