



## Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) at Northland School

# Information for Parents

**There is no expectation or requirement for a student to have their own device.**

Northland School permits students in Years 3 - 8 to bring their own **Chromebook** to school providing:

- The device meets school specifications (see **Chromebook Specifications** attached)
- The student and family have signed a **BYOD Agreement** (attached).

Northland School currently provides Chromebooks on a 1 device to 2 students ratio in Years 3 - 8.

Students at Northland School use digital technology to enhance their learning by:

- Being involved in engaging tasks
- Learning skills that are transferable
- Learning to use digital information
- By being involved in real-life contexts
- Working efficiently
- Learning and practising digital citizenship



# Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Agreement

I would like my child to bring their own Chromebook to school for use in the classroom learning programme.

I understand that all devices brought to Northland School and used as part of the school's BYOD programme must comply with the conditions of use as stated below.

(Please tick each statement to indicate you have understood):

- The device must be a **Chromebook** that meets **Northland School BYOD specifications**.
- While the school takes all reasonable steps to minimise risk, it takes **no responsibility** for any loss or damage which may occur. It is recommended that the device be transported in a suitable protective bag.
- I will ensure the device is covered by **insurance** (this is usually Home Contents).
- I will be responsible for any device **repairs** or replacements needed.
- The device must be **labelled** with my child's full name.
- The device must be brought to school **fully charged**. There are no provisions for charging devices at school.
- The device must be brought **home** by my child at the end of each day.
- My child must store their device in the class lockable device **storage cabinet** when not in use.
- My child will only use their device when **supervised by a teacher**. The device will not be used during morning tea breaks and lunchtimes.
- Devices brought to school are for the use of my child. The school adheres to a "**sharing screen**" concept wherein my child may share his/her screen with others. In collaborative group activities there may be 2 or more children sharing a screen, however my child remains in charge of his/her device.
- Teachers will encourage the use of personal devices to **support learning** whenever appropriate.
- My child will be expected to follow the school's "**Responsible Use Agreement**" when using their device at school.
- I understand that **the device will be managed by Northland School** through the Chrome Management Console. I understand that this means my child will only be able to log in to their Chromebook using their Northland School account, and that the school will endeavour to protect my child by setting up policies which allow/block certain apps and extensions.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Room: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: a copy of this agreement will be kept in the school office.*



# Chromebook Specifications for BYOD

We will allow any Chromebook as a BYOD device.

Here are some helpful tips to consider when purchasing your Chromebook:

## **RAM: 4GB**

RAM is an important factor to consider as it is largely responsible for ensuring your computer runs efficiently and can handle several different tasks at the same time. We strongly suggest purchasing a Chromebook with 4GB of RAM.

## **Size: 11.6 inch**

Chromebooks should be 11.6 inch (screen size). This size Chromebook is big enough for easy use, but not too big or heavy for students to carry to and from school each day. Any Chromebook larger than this will not fit in our storage cabinets, and so won't be able to be locked away during the school day. As such, bringing a Chromebook larger than this to school would be at your own risk.

## **Android App Capable Chromebooks**

All the Android Apps (Google Play Store Apps) have now been released to Chromebooks, but they only work on some models of Chromebooks. For future proofing, we therefore recommend buying [one of these models of Chromebook](#) that can handle the Android Apps.

## **Touchscreen vs Not Touchscreen**

Touchscreen Chromebooks are generally more expensive than their non-touchscreen counterparts and are certainly not a necessity for your child's learning. Our school-owned Chromebooks are not touchscreen. There may be some games and apps which work better on a touchscreen, and some people find touchscreens to be useful. The choice here is completely personal.

## **Cases**

Your child's Chromebook will be stored in our lockable cabinets when it is not being used at school. It will be stacked on top of a school owned Chromebook. We recommend that you purchase a slim carry case so that it can be stored inside its case. This will prevent it from getting scratched as it is moved in and out of the cabinet.

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## **Extra Information: Google Chrome Management Console**

All Chromebooks will be managed by the school through the Google Management Console. This console enables us to keep students safe, and focussed on their learning, whilst they are using their devices. By locking down the sign in to their Northland School account, we are able allow/block certain apps and extensions and apply policies for all devices. The Google Chrome Management Console fee for all BYOD is now covered by the ministry. For more information on the Chrome Management Console, please contact either [katiem@northland.school.nz](mailto:katiem@northland.school.nz) or [nathaniel@northland.school.nz](mailto:nathaniel@northland.school.nz) .