



## 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 device 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 through the school's Google Chrome Management Console

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

For those teams participating in BYOD (really BYOC), we will allow any Chromebook, but we do have some advice:

## **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**

With Android releasing their apps, you *may* also want to consider purchasing a touchscreen Chromebook. Android apps have generally been designed for smartphones/tablets, and so many of their apps may work best with a touchscreen Chromebook. A touchscreen Chromebook could therefore be a more useful tool in the future. They are quite a bit more expensive however, and are certainly not a requirement.

## **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.

## **Google Chrome Management Console**

All Chromebooks (both school owned and BYOD) will be managed by the school through the Google Management Console. This console enables us to keep students safe whilst they are using their devices, and also ensure that they are focussed on their learning. We will be able to monitor and control the websites they can visit, allow/block certain apps and extensions, and apply policies for all devices on our school network. The school will cover the \$40.00 Google Chrome Management Console fee for all BYOD. If parents wish to make a donation to cover part, or all, of this cost then this would be very much appreciated.