



## Secondary School “Bring Your Own Device” Program

### Background

Pittwater House adopts a “Bring Your Own Device” (BYOD) technology program for all Secondary students to be used in all learning areas. The technology model in the school is for each student in the Secondary School to be equipped with their own device. Pittwater House will provide a site wide WiFi network, a suite of educational software and IT support. The learning benefits of a BYOD model are that it normalises the use of technology within the classroom and creates opportunities for students to learn, collaborate and communicate beyond the walls of the classroom. Ready access to a laptop provides an invaluable educational resource that complements the learning taking place in the classroom and is suited to the balance between direct instruction and student centred work.

The 2018 BYOD program involves:

- Students purchasing their own device (privately or through school payment program if they prefer)
- Students device will be connected to school’s wireless network
- Students will have, at no additional cost, the option to have Microsoft Office/Office 365 and the Adobe Creative Cloud loaded onto their devices
- Students will also be provisioned with a school based email account
- Students will be provided a Google account to access Google Apps and Cloud based storage
- Students and parents can access the learning platform, Canvas, for learning resources
- For some subjects, students will access e-textbooks
- Students will use the device in classes when required
- 2017 Pittwater House Year 6 students will be able to use their current device in the secondary school. There is no expectation for these families to purchase a new device.

One lesson learnt over the last couple of years is that the type of device in the secondary school is not overly important.

### Minimum Specifications

	Apple	Windows
Processor	1.8GHz dual-core Intel Core i5	IntelMulti® i5, or equivalent
Operating System	Mac OS X v10.xx	Windows 10
Memory	8GB of RAM	8GB of RAM
Storage	128GB with 50% free space	256GB with 50% free space
Display	1280×800 Display 512MB of VRAM	1280×800 Display 512MB of VRAM

It is important that:

1. Each laptop is covered with personal insurance. One suggested provider who focuses on student laptops insurance is <http://ibroker.net.au>. The school insurance does not cover student owned property.
2. Each has up to date virus software.

3. All devices need to meet the minimum specifications and have as long a battery life as possible.
4. If the student is likely to choose technology based electives, such as IST or Photography and Digital Media in Years 9 to 12 then a higher powered laptop would be beneficial.
5. iPads and other “App” based tablets, such as Android tablets, are not recommended as a prime device due to their limitations. Similarly Chromebook do not allow all software to be installed.

### Software

Students are able to self-install software as per the instructions outlined on the Student Portal.

<http://pittwaterhouse.com.au/your-child/my-portal/students/>

### Textbooks

Increasingly publishing companies are working on making the e-textbook options more accessible and these often offer a large range of resources and experiences not available in traditional paper texts. A large percentage of texts in 2018 will be either e-only or have e-options. Access details for these texts will be made available via the Student Portal.

### Student Responsibilities

Having constant access to technology can be revolutionary to the way students learn, opening up greater opportunities for instant access to information, more individualised and differentiated learning and increased opportunities to be creators of content rather than passively receiving instruction. However, access to technology also comes with responsibility and students must realise that they are responsible for their actions. Therefore, before they are allowed to access the technology at school they must complete the internet and ICT user agreement. They also must take responsibility in:

- Ensuring devices are always charged each night and brought daily to all lessons;
- Ensuring they are protected with a suitable case and always handled with care; and,
- Ensuring that they back up their files to a suitable location. Computer malfunction is not an excuse for the late submission of work. Students’ Office 365 and Google accounts, provided by the school, offer cloud based storage.

### School Support

The school will provide assistance with connecting devices to the schools networks and necessary programs where needed.

Once you have purchased the device for your son/daughter, please note that students will be required to install and configure their own device, including the setup of anti-virus software and cloud storage.

Instructions will be provided to students towards the beginning of the school year.

If you have any questions about devices please contact the Coordinator of Learning Technologies, [mike.hobson@tphs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mike.hobson@tphs.nsw.edu.au). If you have any other questions concerning the program please contact me at [james.walmsley@tphs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:james.walmsley@tphs.nsw.edu.au)

Yours sincerely,



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