



Frequently Asked Questions about BYOD (Bring Your Own Device):

What exactly is BYOD?

BYOD, or Bring Your Own Device, refers to a program where students bring their personal devices, such as laptops or tablets, to school for educational purposes.

Is participation in the BYOD program mandatory?

Yes, all students are required to have a device with them for school each day to participate effectively in the educational activities.

What type of device is recommended for BYOD?

The school suggests a Windows device that meets the specified requirements outlined in our Buying Guide. Devices available through our portals are deemed suitable options. While students may opt to use iPads or Macs, it's important to note that differences in appearance and functionality may lead to confusion, and teachers will not offer technical support for these devices. Additionally, devices like iPods, phones, and tablets under 10 inches (e.g., iPad Mini) are not suitable for BYOD use.

Will Apple products be compatible with the school network?

Yes, Apple products are compatible with the school network, though they are not the recommended choice due to the reasons stated above.

Which operating systems are NOT supported by the school network.

Google Chrome OS, Linux, Windows 8 and earlier, android, iOS 14 or earlier.

Are students permitted to use their mobile phones?

No, mobile phones are not permissible for classroom use, in accordance with the school's and state's phone policy.

Where can I purchase a BYOD device?

While families have the freedom to purchase from any retailer, we advise checking our portals for curated options at discounted prices and often include benefits like Onsite Warranty and/or Accidental Damage Protection (ADP), as well as convenient delivery and payment plans.

What if purchasing a new device poses a financial challenge?

For families facing financial hardship, options such as hiring a school device or applying for a equity loan are available. Refer to the Hire & Equity section for further details.

Are there any additional costs associated with BYOD?

There are no BYOD or internet fees at Park Ridge SHS. However, it's recommended to invest in accessories such as a protective case, waterproof bag, wired headphones, and Accidental Damage Protection (ADP) for the device. If you have insurance check if the device is covered as ADP may not be required.

How can I ensure the safety of the device at school?

While the school does not assume responsibility for personal devices, lockers equipped with tamper-proof designs are available for student use. Insurance coverage is recommended to mitigate risks of damage, loss, or theft. ADP will NOT cover loss or theft. Lockers throughout the school are monitored by 24hr CCTV.

What is the expected usage time for devices during school hours?

Devices serve as learning tools to complement traditional resources. The amount of time spent using them varies depending on educational requirements and assignments. If concerns arise regarding workload, parents are encouraged to communicate with teachers.

Are there resources available for online safety guidance?

Yes, comprehensive advice on online safety is accessible for both students and parents through the provided links.

For students please visit: www.esafety.gov.au External link

For parents please visit: www.esafety.gov.au/parents External link

Will students continue to learn handwriting skills?

Yes, handwriting remains an integral part of the curriculum. Devices with touchscreen capabilities and stylus support are recommended to facilitate handwriting tasks when necessary.

Do I need to purchase antivirus software for the device?

No, as antivirus apps may interfere with network connectivity. Most Windows devices come equipped with Windows Defender for protection.

Can students charge their devices at school?

While students can charge their devices at school, access to power points is not guaranteed. It's advisable for students to charge their devices at home and use them responsibly throughout the day.

What should students do if their device runs out of battery during school hours?

Students should save their work to OneDrive and visit the IT Help Desk during break time to receive a loan device for temporary use (must be returned by 3:15pm on the day of loan).

What is the procedure for handling damaged devices at school?

The responsibility for repairing or replacing damaged devices lies with the owner. It's highly recommended to invest in Accidental Damage Protection (ADP) to mitigate financial burdens in such situations.