

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)



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We live in a digital world in which most of our communication and transactions are done electronically. It therefore makes sense for students to learn digitally.

To enable digital or e-learning we require all Year 9 and 10 students to bring a device to college every day. We allow their device to access the internet via the college's wireless network. This means that students can research on the internet and download information and images.

The college is provided with free ultra-fast internet by the Ministry of Education who also strictly filter what students can and cannot access on their devices.

In the first few weeks of Term 1, Year 9 students will be introduced to e-learning and taught how to share documents with their teachers via Google Docs. (Most students will already be familiar with this technology.) In the first weeks of Term 1 students will learn about digital citizenship. This will include learning about safe use of the internet and social media.

DEVICES

What sort of device does your child need?

Student devices need to be able to perform the following functions: access the internet via wifi; allow students to write and "wordprocess" documents; allow students to use spread sheets; allow them to create visual presentations such as videos and slideshows. The devices do not need to have large amounts of built-in memory as we encourage students to store their work in Google Docs - "in the clouds".

We recommend devices which either have a keyboard or can have a keyboard attached. We also strongly recommend that you purchase a durable case or sleeve to prevent damage to your child's device.

What happens if I cannot provide a device for my child?

The college has a supply of devices to lend to students on a period by period basis so that no one misses out on e-learning. These may not be taken home.

We are investigating ways in which we can assist families to purchase devices inexpensively and affordably. We hope to publish details of this scheme later this year.

Can my child continue to use their device in Years 11, 12 and 13?

Yes, we encourage students to use devices in the senior school. At present all NCEA external assessments have to be handwritten but NZQA are trialling online assessment and it is likely that, by the time they reach Year 11, your child will complete at least some of the NCEA assessments "online".

Can my child store their device safely at the college when it is not needed?

Yes, we will store devices for students at the college office or at the library when they are not needed.

INSURANCE

We strongly recommend that you insure your child's device as the college's insurance does not cover devices it does not own. If a device is broken or stolen (very rare events) we will investigate and hold perpetrators accountable.