Bring your own device
@ Westall Secondary College 2016

In 2016 students in Year 9 are required to bring their own computing device to school every day. This is an expansion of the BYO iPad program students experienced in Years 7 and 8.

What is BYOD?

Bring Your Own Device, or BYOD, is a technological trend in schools.
BYOD recognises that technology and choices about technology are very much personal.
BYOD acknowledges technology in education means more than meeting specific curriculum requirements.
BYOD is designed to give you, as students and families, freedom to make technology choices that suit you and all your circumstances.

How does it work?

You will be able to select the model of the device you choose to bring to school each day so long as it meets the Westall Secondary College **Device Specification**.

There is also some software that you must have on the device.
In most cases there are free options for this software.

You are required to sign a **User Agreement** that sets out how the device can be used at school. The eLearning Coordinator or ICT Technician is available to answer questions and to give assistance. However, the school does not manage, own or warranty the device - it's your device. The school will offer limited support.

What type of device can we bring?

There are a range of devices available that fall into a variety of price categories, all of which will meet the **Device Specification**.

You might choose a Laptop

or you might choose an IPad

You should carefully consider all your options for purchase and lease/rent-to-buy. Consider also that a good quality device could comfortably last four years.
Some of the **Device Specification** requirements are quite particular. It is possible you already own or use a device that meets the Device Specification, for example the iPad used in Year 7 and 8, in which case this would most likely meet the specifications.

It is, however, your responsibility to ensure that any device that is brought into the school is free of viruses. Our technicians will be able to offer support with checking for viruses and in some cases clearing them. If they are unable to clear the viruses then it will be necessary for you to take the device to a local IT store to be fixed. These stores charge approximately $50 to clear the device.

Why are we introducing the program now?
The netbook program that was originally funded by the government has now come to an end. The BYOD program will be phased in over a number of years commencing with Year 9 students and new students to the school. The BYOD program will ensure students enjoy rich learning experiences and are able to take advantage of the opportunities that technology offers.

I'm concerned about the costs
The purchase of a device is a major decision and a significant expense. When the cost is considered over the life of the device, however the expense is considerably less. Westall Secondary College has taken strides to integrate device use into many aspects of teaching and learning. Your investment allows the school to maximise learning outcomes for all students.

I'm concerned about device security
The College does not own the device, or warranty the device. Research undertaken in schools where BYOD programs have taken over from the previously funded netbook program, indicated that students who considered themselves the device owner took greater care of them and rarely had device security issues. If you are concerned the device is going to be broken, lost or stolen, you may wish to consider specific accidental damage insurance for the device. You can specifically list the item on your home contents insurance, or you can purchase an Accidental Damage Protection plan for your device. You may also consider using a device locator service. These services include the "Find my iPad" service built in to Apple iOS devices, "Prey" for Windows or "LoJack for Laptops".
Internet access on the device will be filtered at school and students will be prohibited from connecting to other networks while at school.

What technical support does the College offer?

- Install wi-fi
- Acess to required software for Windows and Mac*
- Confirm or install anti-virus protection
- School printer connections
- Acess to network drives
- Initial identification of technology issues and advise on action required to resolve the issue.

Please note: iPad users will require an itunes account to download the required Apps required for each of their subjects.

Details and Feedback

If you have questions or feedback on the 'Bring Your Own Device' Program you can contact the eLearning Coordinator or ICT Technician at the College on 95475785

Device Specification

Hardware Specification The device must meet *all* of the following requirements:	
Form Factor	Laptop, iPad/tablet device.
Physical Dimensions	Minimum Screen Size: 9.7" Maximum Screen Size: 13.3" (It is not recommended to get anything as large as 15.6". They might be cheaper but are big and heavy)
Operating System	The device should be 3 years old or less. It must be Windows or Mac OS, iPad IOS
Battery Life	For safety reasons students are not permitted to recharge their devices at school Advertised battery life of at least **six hours** is crucial..

Additional Considerations:

The College will be able to offer the Department of Education provided MS Office 2013 for either Mac or Windows for free while students are at this school. You **DO NOT** have to purchase MS-Office. Similarly, with pdf, there are numerous free pdf creation/viewing software packages available. You do not have to buy Adobe products.

When acquiring the device you should also direct your attention to:

Recommendations	Maximum weight: 2kg Minimum RAM (laptops): 4GB Disk configuration (laptops): Solid State disk (SSD)
Consideration	Accidental loss and breakage insurance
Operating System	As per the Hardware Specification, above