

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Does my child have to have a device in 2022?

The majority of students have their own device, which has benefits to students' engagement and learning. **In 2022 all teachers at Christchurch South Karamata Intermediate will use Hapara Workspaces to plan and share learning resources online with students. Students will use the Google Suite environment to create learning and share this with their own families on a regular basis through their own Seesaw ePortfolios. We strongly encourage all students to have their own device.**

2. What is the school providing for those students who don't have their own device?

The school will continue to maintain some access to school owned devices. Students who bring their own devices certainly have a better experience in our blended e-learning environment, as they are able to customise their device so that it works more efficiently for them. As demand for school devices decreases we will redirect school resources into other areas of improving the efficiency and quality of our school network.

3. What is the school doing to ensure my child is safe while using their own device?

The school has invested significantly in equipment to make sure our students are safe on their devices.

- We use a firewall device that allows us to track where each and every user has been on the internet. It also provides filtering via linewize.*
- We can also block specific elements on websites while allowing access to other beneficial elements.*
- All students work through a "Digital Citizenship" programme early in Term 1. A key part of this programme includes the students working through the details of the "Responsible Use of ICT Agreement" that parents agree to and ensure students are aware of and agree to during the enrolment process.

*Please note that any device that is on a separate data plan will be not be subject to our school security measures.

4. Won't bringing a device discourage students from going outside at interval and lunchtime and being active?

We have always taken great pride in the breadth of our curriculum and the wealth of opportunities we provide our students. This obviously continues in a BYOD environment. However since the introduction of BYOD we have carefully monitored the use of the devices at break times. As a result we have established the following guidelines;

- Bringing your own device (BYOD) to school is to support in-class learning.
- Interval and lunch breaks are designed for students to take a break and be involved in alternative activities. Devices (personal and school) are not to be used during these times. Exceptions to this are on wet days under direct supervision of a teacher.

5. **How will my child's device be secured?**

We provide secure places that students may use to store their devices. While the school takes all reasonable steps to minimise risk it takes no responsibility for any loss or damage that might occur, insurance is a home responsibility.

The following applies during breaks:

- Whiteboards are locked during breaks. This creates a secure place for students to store their devices if they wish. We encourage students to make use of this facility.

6. **Will my child's device be used by other students?**

A device brought to school by your child is for their use. The school adheres to a 'sharing screen' concept, whereby your child may share his/her screen with others. In collaborative group work there may be 2-3 children working together, however your child is in charge of his/her device.

7. **What type of device do you recommend?**

Our network can handle IOS 11 or later, OSX 10.13 or later, Windows 10 or later and Android 4.4 or above. On the next couple of pages we outline device suitability for our school environment.

8. **What will happen when my child goes to High School?**

Every High School is on their own journey down the BYOD path and obviously if you have any questions around your child taking their device to high school we would encourage you to contact them directly.

9. **What is Google Apps for Education (GAFE)?**

The school uses the Google Apps cloud environment. Each student has their own Google account with its accompanying email address and cloud storage for documents, spread sheets, presentations and other Google Apps. Student owned devices consequently don't need to have any specific software loaded on them.

Students are able to collaborate with each other and their teachers and parents. There is no software to download and all the work is stored in a password protected online environment and can be accessed by any computer.

We use an add on product called "Hapara" or Teacher Dashboard which allows teachers to access all of the students' Google files including email (current, sent and deleted). This is extremely useful as a tool to assess student learning, provide feedback and to conference online with students. It also provides an additional layer of security as student activity can be monitored if necessary.

BYOD Device Information (2022)

While a range of devices can be used on our network some support learning, in our environment, more effectively than others. Our network is compatible IOS 11 or later, OSX 10.13 or later, Windows 10 or later and Android 4.4 or above. **We strongly recommend a Chromebook or laptop with a full operating system.** Whichever device is selected it must meet the following requirements:

- A battery life of at least 6 hours (there will be no charging capability at school)
- Wireless capability (we require devices that are “N” compatible)
- A minimum screen size of 7” although larger than this is better.
- The device must have a full keyboard.

Devices that can be used at Christchurch South within our BYOD programme are:

Chromebooks



Pros

- Large display
- Full size keyboard
- Low cost
- Long battery life
- Work well with Google Apps
- Our experience suggests these are the best for our environment

Cons

- Primarily an internet browser

Laptops



Pros

- Large display
- Full size keyboard
- Powerful/Fast
- DVD Drive (possibly)

Cons

- Heavy
- Shorter battery Life
- Variable quality

Hybrids



Pros

- Small/Light
- Real keyboard
- Long battery life
- Touch screen

Cons

- Less powerful
- Slower
- Expensive