'Bring Your Own Device’ Policy

Rationale

The supported model for the supply of technology resources in education no longer exists. Bowraville Central School values the importance of technology in assisting students with their learning. The promotion of technology is fundamental to the school’s educational philosophies.

By implementing Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), Bowraville Central School will assist students in developing digital literacy, fluency and citizenship while preparing them for the high tech world in which they will live, learn and work. It will empower students and give them direct involvement in the way they use technology in their learning.

It will also allow teachers to continue to employ technology in the classroom while building on the experiences gained in the previously supported model.

Objectives

1. To encourage the bringing of a computing / browsing device to school by students
2. To provide a safe environment in which students can achieve Objective 1
3. To ensure a minimum standard of device compatibility
4. To enable students to use technology to enhance their learning where applicable
5. To provide the opportunity for teachers to continue to tailor lesson delivery so that students can use their devices in class

Actions

(1) Students and Parents/Carers

- Students may bring their own devices to school and may access the department’s Wi-Fi network.
- The device must meet the device specifications as outlined by the school.
- A device which does not meet the device specifications will not be able to access school networks and services
- The department will provide internet access at no cost to students enrolled in the school
- Students are responsible for the care and maintenance of their devices, including data protection and battery charging.
- Prior to bringing their device for the first time, students and their parent/caregiver must read and sign the BYOD User Charter which sets out the responsibilities and expectations relating to the use of personal devices.
- Students must follow teachers’ directions as to the appropriate use of their devices in class.
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(1) Teachers

- Teachers will be encouraged to facilitate the use of students’ devices in their classrooms where they deem appropriate. Use of students’ own devices in class is, however, at the sole discretion of the teacher and may not be utilised in every lesson.

(2) Bowraville Central School

Bowraville Central School will:

- Not accept any liability for the theft, damage or loss of any student’s device. Students, who bring their own devices onto school sites, do so at their own risk.
- Not provide hardware or technical support for devices.
- Maintain a BYOD Equity Policy to ensure all students have access to computing resources when required.
- Provide a BYOD User Charter to list the responsibilities and expectations of each student and their families.
- Ensure a copy of the Charter is signed by each student and their parent/caregiver.
- Publish a device specification that outlines the requirements of the BYOD Program devices, including but not limited to:
  - Form factor
  - Physical dimensions
  - Network connectivity
  - Operating system
  - Processor
  - Battery life

- Provide a wireless network with filtered internet connection to which students may connect their personal device

Where the school has reasonable grounds to suspect that a device contains data which breaches the BYOD Agreement, they may confiscate the device for the purpose of confirming the existence of the material. Depending on the nature of the material involved, further action may be taken including referral to the police. School disciplinary action may also be appropriate.