



# AVELEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

*An Independent Public School*

(ABN 29 985 456 130)

8 Bolero Road, Aveley, WA 6069

## **Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) – Parent Information Sheet**

### **Why Are We Utilising BYOD?**

- To give students the skills they need for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning
- To use technology as a tool to support learning but not as the driving force behind activities
- To improve student outcomes
- To enrich student learning (current, relevant and engaging content)
- To allow us to better work together and support cooperative learning
- To allow us to provide student-centred learning
- To help us meet the requirements of the West Australian Curriculum

### **Things You Need To Know**

- The use of devices are governed by the ICT Acceptable Usage Agreement and classroom protocols. Students will be reminded of these by teachers.
- While we do have very structured routines and processes to help ensure the safety of devices, ultimately the responsibility lays with the student. They need to follow the expectations to help maintain their device safely.
- Every student who wishes to participant in the BYOD program must have signed the school's ICT Acceptable Use Agreement.
- The use of a digital platform allows for the opportunity for you and your child to have a greater shared learning journey. Children will be able to regularly share their digital work with you.
- Apps are a tool for students to use to practice a skill or demonstrate their understandings. Teachers will still be looking for how your child has demonstrated the desired education outcome. Teachers will provide you with a list of apps they would like on the devices. The majority of these will be free; however, there is a \$20 fee nominated for the purchase of apps in the 2019 Voluntary Contributions information.
- The classroom teacher will have number of strategies to fix any minor issues. However, if the problem is something more serious this will need to be fixed at home.
- We hope that most children/families are able to bring a device. If they are not, their learning needs will still be catered for by the provision of a device when one is available.
- There are a number of companies that lease devices. This is an option for families who would rather not have the initial outlay of purchasing a device. Buying the device is very much about finding the best option for you.
- As most of you who own a phone can testify, occasionally accidents do happen. If possible, we encourage you to look into adding any devices to your home and contents insurance.

## **So Which Device Do I Choose?**

Since we rolled out our BYOD program we have not specified a particular make or model. We welcome all platforms and device types as long as they meet the minimum specifications below. We believe this model better prepares students for the diverse range of technologies they will come into contact with over the next few years.

## **Minimum Specifications**

Camera, microphone, internet connectivity (dual band 5 GHz capability), word processing program or app, ability to access Google apps, android apps or apple apps. Minimum screen size 7.9" x 9.7" (size of an iPad mini). The **minimum** specifications can be found on a variety of devices including but not limited to; iPads, Chromebooks and Android Tablets. Please check with retailers for exact specifications and suitability for purpose.

## **FAQ**

**Q:** Would you expect to see the device with everything pre-installed?

**A:** Each class teacher will provide a list of specific apps they require early in the new school year.

**Q:** How do you communicate software updates with parents?

**A:** We will always try and fix minor issues and bugs at school but the expectation is that apps are kept updated at home. Teachers will notify parents if there are ongoing technical issues.

**Q:** Do most children bring devices?

**A:** Uptake depends on class to class, year to year. Some classes have up to 90% uptake others are as low 50%. The level of uptake is increasing each year.

**Q:** Will BYOD go lower than Year 3?

**A:** At this stage there are no plans to take BYOD lower than Year 3.

**Q:** Is it better to have something with a keyboard?

**A:** This is down to personal preference. Some students prefer to use a keyboard, others don't. In activities within the classroom there is no necessity to have keyboard.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school on 6296 5466 or [Aveley.ps@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Aveley.ps@education.wa.edu.au) should you have any questions in regard to the BYOD program.