



Frequently Asked Questions

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1. General

What is BYOD?

BYOD is a strategy whereby students will be able to bring a familiar personal device to school to use as their primary technological device. The school can provide the ability to connect compatible devices to a filtered internet service.

What will be provided by the school?

The school will provide access to a filtered Wi-Fi internet service. No other support, software or service will be provided by the school. **Note:** schools that provide student-device access to the network via an Ethernet cable are operating outside DEC network security guidelines. This is beyond the scope of the BYOD policy, guidelines and student agreement.

Who pays for the technology brought to school?

These devices will be purchased by and remain the property of the family.

Why doesn't the school provide the laptops anymore?

2013 saw the final roll out of student laptops. This funding from the Australian Government's DER National Partnership finished at the end of 2013. Students who have already received laptops under this program will continue to use them under the terms of the Laptop User and Loan Charter while remaining at a NSW government school.

The DER-NSW one to one laptop program has led to

- enhanced access to computers and the internet for students and teachers
- the movement of teaching practice towards the skills of the 21st century
- greater access for students to global information resources and tools
- improved motivation and engagement of students.

Source: [DER-NSW Evaluation \(2013\)](#)

The NSW DEC can no longer provided one-to-one access to devices without the Australian Government funding.

Will there be a permission form that needs to be signed before a student brings their own device to school?

Yes parents will need to sign the *BYOD Student Agreement* before students can use the device within the school.

What is the significance of the KHS BYOD sticker?

A completed BYOD Student Agreement will entitle the student to receive a KHS BYOD sticker. Any device participating in the BYOD program will need to have the KHS BYOD sticker attached at all times. Only approved devices will be able to access the school's Wi-Fi and thereby participate in the BYOD program.

2. Misuse / Responsible Online behaviour

Should I be concerned about the potential misuse of devices during school time?

Internet access on the device will be filtered at school and students will be prohibited from connecting to other networks while at school. Students shall comply with departmental and school policies concerning the use of BYODs at school and while connected to the DEC network including the Online Communication Services-Acceptable Usage for School Students. Students who choose not to follow the *BYOD Student Agreement* may have their access to school Wi-Fi removed and their participation in the BYOD program suspended.

What if a student was using his/her laptop to bully another student at school? How would this problem be dealt with?

This is a normal disciplinary issue and should be handled following the school's existing discipline policy.

Will students be able to record teachers or classmates (audio or video)?

With the permission of the teacher, students can make recordings. Students must understand that it is an offence to make recordings (video, audio, photographic) without the consent of the individual being recorded.

Will students be educated about Responsible Online Behaviour and Digital Citizenship?

Yes. There will be a strong teaching and learning focus on preparing responsible digital citizens for a global future. Explicit learning activities based on this concept will be delivered by teachers, alongside regular promotion of Digital Citizenship messages around the school.

3. Technical Support

What technical support will the school provide if my child has a problem with their device?

Kincumber High School staff are under no obligation to provide technical support on either hardware or software. BYOD devices are the responsibility of the student to manage and facilitate their own learning. A range of user guides will be provided on the School Website.

Since there are literally hundreds of devices that could be brought to school as part of the BYOD program, there is no technical assistance provided other than providing the name of the wireless connection. Students will be expected to know how to connect their devices.

Will teachers be responsible for troubleshooting and fixing students' devices?

Since there are literally hundreds of devices that could be brought to school as part of the BYOD program, there is no technical assistance provided other than providing the name of the wireless connection. Students will be expected to know how to connect their devices.

How will students access network resources such as computer lab folders and their personal drive?

Students will not be able to access network resources such as their shared or network drives from their BYOD device.

4. Teaching and Learning

How will these devices be used in the classroom?

Students will use their devices for a variety of activities which will vary from class to class. Activities may include (but are not limited to): complete in class activities, collaborate in real time, research for projects, access websites with curriculum-related content, keep track of classroom assignments, participate in blogging and record journal entries and other approved instructional activities.

How will teachers prevent students from just texting their friends or just surfing the Web?

Students should be instructed to put devices away when they are not completing a specific instructional task. "*Tech on, Tech off*" is an instruction that may be used by teachers to inform students of when devices are to be brought out and used and when they are not required for an activity and are to be put away.

Can teachers require students to bring their own devices?

No. Students are not required to participate in the BYOD program.

Can students use another student's device?

Because of the inherent nature of personally owned devices, devices should only be used by the owner of the device. Usually, having physical access to a personal device also provides the ability to email or text message from the device.

Have teachers been trained to work in a BYOD environment?

Teachers will have access to support resources to assist with the implementation of a BYOD program in their classroom. There are also 30 BYOD Trailblazers across the state who are assisting with the implementation of a BYOD program

5. Hardware

What types of computing devices may my child bring to school?

Students may bring devices such as laptops, netbooks, tablets, smartphones or e-Readers. Please be aware devices such as Nintendo DSs and Sony PSPs are considered gaming devices and are not part of the BYOD program.

If purchasing a learning device for my student, what Wi-Fi specifications should I look for?

The Department's Wi-Fi network installed in high schools operates on the **802.11n 5Ghz standard**. Devices that do not support this standard will not be able to connect.

Will students be able to recharge devices during the school day?

Students should not have the expectation that they will be able to charge devices at school. Many school buildings do not have the capacity to handle additional electrical demands for charging personally owned devices.

6. Wi-Fi Access

Will I need to have Internet access at home?

No. It would be helpful, however, to have some form of Internet access (wired or wireless) in order for a child to make full use of school resources from home, as well the multitude of resources available on the World Wide Web. But, it is not required in order for a child to use a personal computing device at school. In addition there are many providers of free Wi-Fi in the community that students could use to access the internet outside of school hours. Please be aware that these connections do not provide access to a filtered internet experience as experienced on the schools network

Will the wireless access be filtered?

The wireless Internet access available to students will be filtered in the same way that access is managed at present. If students connect using their 3G or 4G connection then this will bypass the filtering, this is not covered by the BYOD policy.

Will students be able to use their devices before or after school? During lunch?

There are currently no restrictions on the use of personal devices outside of lesson times at Kincumber High School.

Is the use of 3G allowed within the school day?

The BYOD policy only covers the connection of devices to the school Wi-Fi. It must be reinforced that if students use their 3G or 4G connection they will not be receiving filtered access to the internet.

How will students be able to print?

Students will not have the capability to print from their devices in school.

7. Damage, Loss or Theft

Does the school provide Insurance for damage, loss or theft?

No. We do however recommend taking out insurance to cover these eventualities.

How will theft, loss, or damage of a personally owned device be handled in a school?

The guidelines for the BYOD program specifically address the risk of students bringing their own devices to school. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices.

8. Software

As a parent, am I required to add additional software (virus protection, filter, tracking device etc.) to my child's technology tool?

Yes. All applicable devices that connect to the internet will need to have antivirus software installed. No other software is expected to be installed on student machines.

Can I get free software?

The DEC has an agreement with Microsoft and Adobe to provide a range of free software for student s to download to their BYOD laptop or home PC. Use the following link to watch a DEC video explaining this great offer:

<http://byodsandpit.weebly.com/microsoft--adobe-student-software.html>

9. Equity

I don't have an electronic communication device that my child can bring to school. Will my child be penalized or miss out on instruction?

No, it is not mandatory for students to bring a device, even if they do own one. Promoting activities, such as researching a topic, where students work in groups of 2-3 students sharing one device should prevent any one student being disadvantaged through not bringing their own device. In addition to the seven fixed computer spaces in the school and one set of *Google Chromebooks*, Kincumber High School is investigating the purchase of tablets and portable laptop trolleys to allow any classroom to become a "connected classroom". This extra access to technology is designed to support any student who, for whatever reason, does not bring their own device to school.