



John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School

A school of the Anglican Schools Commission Inc
ABN 56 676 652 018

5 November 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians

In 2013 John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School initiated a parent funded 1-to-1 Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program using the iPad for all students in Years 4 - 12. As the learning needs of the students changed in Years 10-12, the School recognised that increasingly many students found a laptop to be a preferable device to meet their learning needs, as such, in recent years our Year 10-12 students have had the opportunity to use an iPad or laptop device of their choice.

From 2020, the Middle School students (Years 7 – 9) will be afforded the same opportunity as our Year 10-12 students and have the option to use a laptop or iPad. The School acknowledges that technology is rapidly developing; and learning to use a device is not as important as the ability to be able to use technology to assist in the learning process. We have noted that personal preference plays a significant role in successful technology integration into teaching and learning programs.

Therefore, please be advised that in Years 7-9, all students (and parents) can opt to use a laptop as part of the Schools BYOD Program, from the start of 2020.

It should be noted that many students will still continue to prefer to use their current iPad devices. There is no requirement to purchase a new device as the minimum device specifications have not changed from 2019 to 2020.

More detailed material is included in the BYOD information as sent to all parents of Years 7 – 9 students (2020) on Friday, 1 November, 2019.

Should you have questions regarding this initiative, please contact Mr Jordan Smith, Associate Principal, Middle School, for further information.

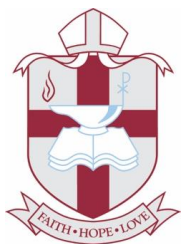
Yours sincerely

Jason Bartell
PRINCIPAL

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BYOD iPad and Laptop Programme

(Information for 2020 Year 7-9 Parents)

In 2013 John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School initiated a parent funded 1-to-1 BYOD program using the iPad for all Students in Years 4-12. As the learning needs of the students changed in Years 10-12, we recognized that increasingly many students find a Laptop to be a preferable device to meet their learning needs as such in recent year our year 10-12 students have had the opportunity to use an iPad or Laptop device. From 2020, the Middle School (Years 7-9) students will be afforded the same opportunity as our Years 10-12 students and have the option to use a Laptop or iPad.

This decision has been made based on feedback from students, parents and staff. We acknowledge that technology is rapidly developing and learning to use a device is not as important as the ability to be able to use technology to assist in the learning process. We have noted that personal preference plays a significant role in successful technology integration into teaching and learning programs.

Therefore, please be advised that in Years 7-9, all students (and parents) can opt to use a Laptop as part of the Schools BYOD Programme from the start of 2020. It should be noted that many students will still continue to prefer to use their current iPad devices. There is no requirement to purchase a new device and the minimum device specifications have not changed from 2019 to 2020.

Device: Any Windows based or Apple Laptop that meet the minimum specifications listed below would be acceptable to use.

Minimum Specification (see below): You may choose to extend these.

No helpdesk support service will be provided to laptops that do not meet the minimum specifications.

| | General Use Specifications | | Specialised Subjects (see FAQ attached) |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| | <i>Minimum</i> | <i>Desirable</i> | <i>Desirable</i> |
| Processor | Dual Core i3 or higher | Quad Core i3 or Higher | Quad Core i5 Intel or higher |
| RAM | 8GB | 8GB or higher | 8GB or higher |
| Operating System | Windows 10 (Home, Pro) Or MacOS Sierra (version 10.12 or later) | Windows 10 (Home, Pro) Or MacOS Catalina (version 10.15 or later) | Windows 10 (Home, Pro) Or MacOS Catalina (version 10.15 or later) |
| Battery Life | 6 hours | 8 hours | 8 hours |
| Wireless | 802.11 Dual Band (a, g, n) | 802.11 ac | 802.11 ac |
| Screen Size | 13"+ | 13"+ | 13"+ |
| Hard Drive Capacity | 120GB or higher | 256GB or higher | 256GB or higher |
| External Port | USB Audio Out | USB Audio Out | USB Audio Out |

Brand and Model: We make no specific recommendations for one brand over any other, however do encourage parents to consider that these devices are used regularly while at School.

Accessories: Cabled earphones are required by all students.

Software: All students will be expected to have Microsoft Office 365 and Cyberhound installed onto their device. Both are no cost to parents. Details of how to access and install Office 365 can be found on SEQTA. Cyberhound will be installed when students drop off their BYOD forms to the ICT Helpdesk. For new students, instructions and information will be available when they commence at JSRACS. New students unfortunately will be unable to set up their device until after they have received their school username and password.

Below is a list of frequently answered questions that could assist in addressing any queries or concerns you may have.

Frequently Asked Questions

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| What do I need to consider when purchasing a device? | <i>Outside of the minimum specification, size and weight. You may also want to consider a touch screen option. Please review the after-sale service options. Please also consider any insurance options there may be. We also strongly recommend the purchase of a bag. A cover for the device (especially MacBook Airs) may also be helpful to mitigate any damage.</i> |
| Why should I consider a laptop? | <i>Students are increasingly required to produce more sophisticated and complex content using a broader range of functions found in applications installed on a computer. In addition, they need to type large amounts of text. A device with a keyboard is preferable to many for this. The iPad is designed as a personal device, is great for accessing content and producing more simple content, often utilizing slimmed down versions of the applications found on computer systems.</i> |
| What brand or model do I buy? | <i>This is a personal choice. A reputable and well known brand would be advisable.</i> |
| Why are parents given free choice over what and where they purchase the device? | <i>This enables parents to seek the best deal for their purchase. They may also seek to finance the laptop through their own chosen vendor.</i> |
| What support will the school offer in terms of help? | <i>Currently the School will ensure students have an account to access the school's network. Our students all have access to free Microsoft Office License as part of this account. No assistance can be provided for laptops that do not meet our minimum specifications. However, we will attempt to diagnose any faults and recommend a course of action to all students.</i> |
| Do I need anti-virus software? | <i>Yes. Windows 10 has built in security. Avast is an example of a free program commonly used on MacOS devices. There are also commercially available options.</i> |

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| How do I care for the device? | <i>This is the responsibility of the students. Students are reminded that they need to bring their device to school fully charged. Devices should be clearly labelled.</i> |
| Repairs and Maintenance | <i>This is the responsibility of the students and parents. Speak to your vendor about these options. Some vendors offer a pickup service.</i> |
| When can I purchase a laptop? | <i>All students and parents are permitted to purchase a laptop at any time they choose. Once a purchase is made, students are required to pick up a BYOD form from the ICT HelpDesk, complete it, have it signed by parents, and dropped back to the help desk.</i> |
| Why do we outline minimum specifications? | <i>This ensures the devices have capacity to run all of the software now and into the near future. Students interested in studying ICT, Media or Art into the future, may wish to purchase computers with greater specification. (see grey highlighted section table in letter).</i> |
| What additional hardware will I need to provide? | <i>All students are required to have a set of ear phones.</i> |