

Cromwell College Bring Your Own Device

What Device to Bring?

- We strongly recommend a Google Chromebook or laptop for use by students. These devices fit our network best and have shown themselves to be the most suitable for the e-learning approaches we are using.
- A new computer is not required.

If you already have a computer then below is a list of the **minimum specifications** to ensure that the device supports your child's learning and connects easily to our school computer network:

- Wireless capable (802.11 a/b/g/n)
- Chromebook, netbook or laptop are strongly recommended
- Ideally less than 3 years old
- If it is a PC laptop then it needs to be running at least Windows 7
- Battery life of 5-6 hours
- 2 GB of RAM
- At least a 10 inch screen
- Protected by a robust carry case

Smart phones do not have the functionality required to be part of our BYOD programme.

If you are unsure whether your current computer will meet the required specifications then please contact Lachy Brett, our IT Manager, through school.

Purchase of a new Chromebook

Our preferred device is a Google Chromebook and the various brands are very comparable eg HP, Acer and Samsung. These retail for about \$350.

We realise that the cost of BYOD is significant for families. Families are welcome to purchase their Chromebook from business such as Noel Leemings, Warehouse Stationery Paper Plus or Harvey Norman. Some of these have 6-12 month interest free payment options.

Loan of a Chromebook

The College has a number of Chromebooks that can be loaned at a reasonable cost and bond each year. The priority for these devices goes to students in Year 7 to 10. Please contact our school office or Librarian for the application form.

There is also a hardship fund that can be accessed by talking with your child's Whānau Teacher or Dean.

How the device will be used

Students will mainly use Hapara and Google Applications such as Google Docs and Google Classroom to share, create, complete and edit tasks, with work stored in the cloud. The device will also be used for internet research, communication, presentation and as a means for creating a portfolio of a student's work. Students still practice the craft of handwriting.

Students will be expected to have their device charged overnight ready for school the next day. Our school is not able to provide technical support, insurance or repair services.

Devices are brought to the College at a student's own risk. A student who damages another student's device would be expected to cover the costs for this.

Secure lockers are provided for students.

A new Chromebook should last for 3-4 years. For Year 11-13 we recommend that students use a laptop.

Thank you for your support with this initiative. If you have any questions then please contact me through school.

Mason Stretch
Principal