BYOD FAQ

1. What is BYOD?

Bring Your Own Device, or BYOD, is a technological trend in education and in the corporate world. BYOD recognises that technology and choices about technology are very much personal. BYOD acknowledges technology in education means more than meeting specific curriculum requirements. BYOD is designed to give you, as students and families, freedom to make technology choices that suit you and all your circumstances.

2. Why should my child bring their own computer?

This Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program replaces the Digital Education Revolution scheme that ended in 2013. Having a device at school enables teachers to vary the structure of a lesson to cater for the learning styles of individual students and increase engagement in class. It allows a student to access information from the Internet under the protection of the DoE Portal.

3. Will my child’s computer be safe at school?

Students bring their own device for use at Pennant Hills High School at their own risk.

4. What if I cannot afford a device?

The purchase of a device is a major decision and a significant expense. A good quality device may last from Year 7 to Year 10 and, viewed over four years, the expense is relatively less. Pennant Hills High School has taken steps to integrate device use into many aspects of teaching and learning. Your investment allows the school to maximise learning outcomes for all students.

We are committed to the delivery of the same learning outcomes to all our students regardless of financial means.

We have developed an Equity Policy to operate alongside our BYOD Policy. The Equity Policy outlines a number of strategies the school may take, in consultation with you, to augment access to information and communication technologies.

5. Will the device be used in every lesson? If not every lesson then how often?

Use of the device during the school day is at the discretion of teachers. Students must use their device as directed by their teacher.

6. What will happen if my child doesn’t have or bring their device to school?

Your child will still be able to participate in lessons that day, supported by learning adjustments made by teachers.

7. How will my child charge their device at school?

Students must bring their device to school fully charged. There will be no facility at the school for the charging of students’ devices.
8. **What level of support will be available?**

A troubleshooting guide is available on the school’s BYOD webpage for basic guidance. Additionally, the Information Technology staff will be available to provide simple technical support advice to students. They will not be available to fix the device.

9. **Will teachers provide technical support in class?**

Teachers will not provide any technical support in class.

10. **What will happen if my child’s device is damaged or stolen at school?**

Students bring their own device for use at Pennant Hills High School at their own risk.

Pennant Hills High School will not be responsible for any loss, theft or damage to the device or data stored on the device while the device is at school or during a school-related activity.

Parents and students should consider whether their device requires insurance and whether specific accidental loss and breakage insurance is appropriate for the device.

In circumstances where a device is damaged by another student, reimbursement from that student’s family may be required.

11. **Who is responsible for my child’s device when it is at school?**

Each student is wholly responsible for their own device whilst the device is at school, during a school-related activity and whilst travelling to and from school.

12. **Are there any devices that are recommended?**

There is a Pennant Hills High School BYOD Device Requirements Checklist that can be used to guide you in the purchase of a BYOD device. It provides the minimum specifications for a device suitable for the school's BYOD program as well as sample devices for comparison.

13. **What software is available?**

NSW DoE has software licensing agreements which enable students to download and install select software from Microsoft and Adobe for little or no cost.

Use the following link to access this service:

http://nsw-students.onthehub.com/

OR

Access the site from the DoE student portal.