Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Equity Policy

Rationale
The New South Wales Department of Education and Communities has adopted a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy in response to the ending of the 2008 Digital Education Revolution in New South Wales schools.

Essentially the BYOD policy will allow students to utilise their own computing device to facilitate and enhance their learning. Internet access will be provided through the existing DoE wireless network and DoE portal at no cost to students.

Pennant Hills High School BYOD program aims to enhance student learning both in and out of the classroom. This can only occur if all students have access to appropriate technological resources in all their classes.

Objectives
To ensure equity in the BYOD program and its implementation.

To ensure all students have access to appropriate technological resources in their classes.

To provide a framework through which family requests for assistance can be managed consistently.

Actions

Students and Parents/Caregivers
1. Consider your options for the purchase or lease of equipment that meets the Device Specification.

2. If you believe you are unable to provide a device that meets the specification:
   a) Make an application in writing to the Principal, or make an appointment to speak with the Principal and indicate you require assistance in addressing the school's Bring Your Own Device program.
   b) The school will liaise with you, your student and his/her teachers to identify the most appropriate way to address the issue and ensure he/ she has appropriate access to the technological resources of their peers.
   c) You will be asked to make an agreement with the school that confirms the alternative arrangements made for access to technological resources.

3. The school will not purchase a device to assign to your student, nor will the school make a device available for permanent or semi-permanent loan. In substitution of a personal device the school will consider options including:
   a) Priority or reserved access to desktop computers in computer labs or the Library during class time, free periods, before or after school or during breaks.
   b) Loan of a laptop or other device for a particular period or class.
   c) Loan of a laptop or other device for a particular day.
   d) Recurrent daily loan of a laptop or other device.
Actions

**Pennant Hills High School**

1. Endeavour to provide personal access to appropriate technology resources to all students operating under the school’s Bring Your Own Device program in keeping with the objectives of that policy and with respect to its role as a public education institution.

2. Ensure the BYOD program’s Device Specification is designed so that a range of devices in capability and cost are suitable and meet the Specification.

3. Assess applications for assistance in meeting the requirements of the BYOD program on a case-by-case basis. Due consideration will be given to all the facts of the matter, including:
   a) The level of assistance requested.
   b) Existing disbursements from the Student Assistance Scheme.
   c) The Year of the student.
   d) The subjects the student undertakes.
   e) The technology already available to the student at school and at home.

4. Consult with the caregivers in making determinations as to what form any assistance will take.

5. Consider a range of alternatives for providing device access for students, including:
   a) Priority or reserved access to desktop computers in computer labs or the Library during class time, free periods, before or after school or during breaks.
   b) Loan of a laptop or other device for a particular period or class.
   c) Loan of a laptop or other device for a particular day.
   d) Recurrent daily loan of a laptop or other device.

6. Make a written agreement between the school, student and caregivers that specifies the arrangements agreed upon or determined for facilitating access to technological resources.

7. In most circumstances, not agree to loan a laptop or other device to a student overnight, over a weekend or over a holiday period.

8. Provide a protocol for ensuring priority or reserved access to desktop computers where this access is considered appropriate.

9. Provide a protocol for signing out and signing back in a laptop or other device from the Information Technology Office and follow up any cases where the loaned device is not returned in accordance with the agreement.