

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)?

The BYOD Program will be introduced at Year 4 with the aim to:

- deepen their learning and to develop digital literacy, fluency and citizenship that will prepare them for the high tech world.
- enhance personalised learning programmes, Department for Education initiatives and the requirements of the Australian Curriculum (General Capabilities in ICT & digital literacy).
- enable students to be highly connected, social, collaborative and creatively focused.
- fully engage students and create a learning environment that fosters critical and creative thinking
- increase collaboration and improve communication
- meaningfully and safely use of ICTs in a real life context to support learning across the curriculum.
- provide real-time data where they can access tools and resources, post their work, track their progress and interact with teachers and other students involved in their projects.

Who is involved in the BYOD program?

Each year, Year 4 students will be invited into the program with the plan that they will keep their device for Year 5 and Year 6. In 2023, as Year 4 students get started, Year 5 & Year 6 students can opt in knowing that they will only get 1-2 years use from the device before entering similar programs in high schools. By 2026, all Year 4-6 students would have moved through the program.

What are the benefits of Chromebooks?

- Quick start up time impacts on engagement
- Long battery life
- A monitored and safe on-line community
- Lower cost compared with an equivalent performing Windows computer – entry level \$360 (2022)
- Little risk of viruses
- Students and staff share documents therefore feedback for learning is timely
- Staff / Technicians can control access to sites
- Very minimal data usage for internet
- Can be remotely customised by the school

Can I use my own device?

It must be a Chromebook, however does not need to be a Lenovo. There is a benefit in all students having access to the same device with the same capabilities.

Do I have to purchase a Lenovo 100e or 300e Chromebook through the Learning with Technologies portal?

No, but it must be a Chromebook. Please refer to the specifications of low cost models available currently on our BYOD Portal, as a minimum baseline. Second-hand Chromebooks are acceptable. Learning with Technologies has finance options also.

Does the school supply any software?

There is no software to supply.

Will parents have admin privileges?

It is your device and you are able to set it up with other user accounts. Connecting to home WiFi is the same as any other device in your house. Most WiFi/network connected printers are compatible with Chromebooks, however please check with your retailer first.

Who monitors screen time and security?

Chromebooks are a learning tool and are only used for learning. Teachers ensure rest breaks from devices and they are not used at recess or lunch. Usage is monitored by teachers and ICT staff whilst at school.

How is the school managing online security?

At Thorndon Park Primary School, we use the new "SWiFT" Department for Education filter. This filter stops access to websites and sends out alerts to ensure IT, Teachers and Leadership know what has been accessed so that it can be followed up. Inappropriate content is also mandatorily blocked.

If there are any issues with the Chromebook, are these managed by Thorndon Park Primary School IT staff?

If it is purchased through Learning with Technologies, our IT staff will coordinate the repair work and facilitate logging warranty jobs. If the Chromebook needs repairs, students will be able to complete their work through other avenues.

What are the student/staff responsibilities?

- Students must sign a Chromebook Procedures & Agreements document outlining responsibilities prior to using a Chromebook at school.
- Students will be taught how to use and carry the Chromebooks appropriately.
- Chromebooks will be locked in classrooms during break times or when the class is not present.
- Teachers will engage in Professional Development to support the implementation of the program.
- Teachers will plan learning activities around the capabilities of the Chromebook.

How much time will the devices be used at school?

It depends on the learning that is happening at the time.

What work is expected from students at home?

Homework is dependent on the teacher and the learning programme. Not all homework will require a Chromebook.

Why is Google Classroom used?

Google Classroom has many advantages.

- It streamlines the process of sharing files between teachers and students.
- Content, tasks and assignments are stored in one place and can be accessed remotely.
- Students can work collaboratively and simultaneously to maximise time.
- Students are more motivated to start and can be inspired by their peers' thinking.
- Peer feedback provides opportunities for students to move their learning forward.
- Students can respond to other students' questions which provides support allowing the teacher to respond to more complex questions.

Units of Inquiry using Google Classroom

- Readily accessible information for research purposes which allows students to have more variety and less restriction to Library resources.
- Students are able to research and present their learning in a variety of methods.
- Allows students to conduct and respond to surveys.