LONGREACH STATE HIGH SCHOOL BYOD PROGRAM

2020/2021

Longreach State High School BYOD Program

Starting in 2021, Longreach State High School will be initiating a BYOD (Bring your own device) program for all students with the goal of every student having access to a personal device at all times throughout the day. For 2021, the school will only be supporting Windows devices, this will be reconsidered at the end of 2021.

Minimum requirements

There are a few requirements that should be met when choosing a device. See the *BYOD Requirements* further along for the specifics of what to look for.

We also highly recommend a carry case to ensure the device is protected throughout the day.

Things to consider when purchasing a device

- An **SSD** will drastically improve loading times and increase the longevity of the device and is strongly recommended.
- Windows **10 S** is a version of Windows that is not supported. We do not support versions of Windows 8, 7 or older.
- Windows 10 comes with built-in antivirus software, this is acceptable however more capable antivirus programs can be purchased such as Avast, Norton or Bitdefender Antivirus Plus.

Windows BYO Requirements

It is strongly advised when you choose your own computer that the below information is taken into account.

	Lower end (minimum required)	Higher end
Operating System Windows 10 S will not be supported	Windows 10 (build 1909 or higher)	Windows 10
Storage SSD will be heavily preferable as they tend to be more reliable	120GB SSD or 500GB HDD 240GB SSD recommended	240GB SSD or 500GB 500GB SSD recommended
CPU	Intel Core i3, i5 preferable or AMD equivalent	Intel Core i5 or i7 or AMD equivalent
Memory (RAM)	4GB Minimum, 8GB recommended	8GB minimum
GPU	Integrated graphics will be fine for most applications	Dedicated graphics highly recommended
WiFi	Wireless 802.11n or greater, must be 5Ghz compatible or it will not connect to our network	Wireless 802.11n or greater, must be 5Ghz compatible or it will not connect to our network
Warranty	Three years minimum – this is to ensure the device does not cause excessive downtime to the student's learning	Three years minimum – this is to ensure the device does not cause excessive downtime to the student's learning
Battery	A battery that can last six hours on a single charge	A battery that can last six hours on a single charge

Frequently asked questions

Is there any software provided by the school for the device?

Microsoft provides access to Office 365 for free. See our website for information on how to download this.

The school also provides access to Adobe Create Cloud for Windows and Mac OS devices to eligible students. See the IT Department for information on how to acquire this.

Does the school still offer a laptop hire scheme?

Yes, under the Equity Laptop Program, students will be charged $100 to participate in the scheme with $50 being refunded where the device is returned in good condition. Students that cannot afford this can still be allocated a computer that they borrow out for the day.

Internet access at school

While connected to school's network, devices will use the EQ filtering system, meaning they cannot access social media sites such as Facebook or YouTube.

Attempts to circumvent this system may result the device being removed from the school's network.

Who is responsible for the safety of my child's device?

Your child is solely responsible for ensuring the device is safe and secure at all times. We recommend the use of a hard-cover case to ensure the device is protected while in bags, etc.

Is it worth getting a high-end device?

If your child will be performing higher-end tasks such as 3D-design or video editing they will certainly benefit from the extra hardware. Generally, most modern computers (so long as they meet the minimum requirements) will perform acceptably at school.

Will my child's device be tracked or monitored?

No. We do not implement any software that allows staff to see what's on the device.

What computer do you recommend, what is not supported?

We recommend the device that best suits the student, so long as they meet the minimum requirements. Computers that don't meet the requirements are Surface **RT** devices or any device running a version of Windows older than Windows 10. Windows **10 S** is a version of Windows that is not supported.

Android tablets and e-readers are unacceptable devices as these are not supported or do not support the required software. Macs and iPads (including iPad Pros) are also unsupported devices that while they may be used, they are not compatible with our IT system.

What technical support is offered by the school?

The IT Department at Longreach State High School can offer simple to moderate troubleshooting to identify and solve certain problems, however it is recommended that you keep warranties as we cannot guarantee a repair or fix on a device that we don't own.

Why does the school recommend devices be newer than three years?

This is to ensure the greatest compatibility with the network. Problems tend to arise with older devices, particularly those where the warranty has already expired, it's for this reason that we recommend an extended warranty that includes accidental cover.

Why does the school recommend devices come with a minimum three year warranty?

This is to ensure the device is supported while your child is at school. For users starting grade ten, this means that their device is fully covered for the remainder of school. For users starting in Year seven, this means the device will last until the end of Year nine.

- *https://mediasite.eq.edu.au/mediasite/Play/715e41cecde3404488298ecca633f6ad1d*

Local retailers

We are working with several local businesses to provide what is essentially a portal for parents to procure their devices from and any service required thereafter. The advantages of purchasing locally will be better aftermarket support, more genuine customer service as well as supporting local businesses and the local community.

While it's not necessary to purchase from these vendors we have worked to create a simple selection of computers that meet the expectation of the school in 2021. Talk to Lyle at Central West Computer Consultants or Mercury Business Supplies (located in Eagle Street, Longreach) for more information.