SCHOOL BYOD PROGRAM

2024

Longreach State High School BYOD Program

Longreach State High School currently offers a BYOD (Bring your own device) program for all students, with the goal of every student having access to a computer for learning at all times throughout the day. Currently, only Windows devices are supported as they support all the systems in use at Longreach State High School.

Things to consider

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

Your student's device will be in and out of bags and used extensively throughout the day. As such we highly recommend a carry case to ensure the device is protected throughout the day. Some vendors may offer Accidental Damage Coverage or protection, this generally covers your device from common accidents such as screen damage, missing keys or fall damage. When purchasing your device please enquire about your options regarding this.

Things to consider when purchasing a device

- Windows **10 S** is a version of Windows that is not supported. S mode will be disabled.
- We do not support versions of Windows 8, 7 or older.
- Students will need administrative privileges when they onboard their device.
- Windows 10 and 11 comes with antivirus built in and additional antivirus is not necessary, family control and monitoring software can be a detriment to the onboarding process. Particularly if the student isn't allowed to make changes to the device.

Local retailers

We are working with several local businesses to provide what is essentially a portal for parents to procure their devices from as well as 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 2024. Talk to Lyle at Central West Computer Consultants (located in Robin Road, Longreach) or Mercury Business Supplies (located in Eagle Street, Longreach) for more information.

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 personal Mac OS) devices to eligible students. See the IT Department for information on for more information regarding this.

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.

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

We expect students to be vigilant and responsible while browsing the filtered internet and while web filtering helps these systems are not completely foolproof and cannot all inappropriate content. If you have any concerns in regards to this, please talk to your child's teacher.

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 unsupported devices; while they may be used, they are not compatible with our systems.

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.

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 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, since we can't repair devices that we do not own we recommend ensuring your computer is covered under warranty.

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 at least a three year warranty?
This is to ensure the device is supported while your child is at school. For users starting year 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.

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 is not supported	Windows 10 or 11	Windows 10 or 11
Storage	240GB SSD Boot Drive	480GB SSD Boot Drive
CPU	Intel Core i3 or AMD equivalent minimum i5 preferable or AMD equivalent recommended	Intel Core i5 or i7 or AMD equivalent
Memory (RAM)	8GB Minimum, 16GB recommended	8GB Minimum, 16GB recommended
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	
Warranty	Two 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 to eight hours on a single charge	A battery that can last six to eight hours on a single charge