

# BYOD- Information for Our Parent Community for 2021



We have covered most of the questions that our parent community have about BYOD in a Question and Answer format. If you reach the end of this page and still have more questions, then please contact the school on 9817 4565 or email [huntershd-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:huntershd-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

## **What is BYOD?**

It means Bring Your Own Device. Hunters Hill High School has introduced a **mandatory** BYOD Policy for all students from 2021. Students will bring a computer and earphones to school every day. This will enable students to learn and work using 21<sup>st</sup> century methods. They will learn to become digital citizens.

We will require your child to bring home a paper form (or you can print out from the school website) called the HHHS BYOD Program – User Charter and Permission Form for you to sign which acknowledges your permission for them to bring a BYOD to school, and sets out the conditions for use of the device at school. Your child should return that signed form to their Mentor Group Teacher.

## **What sort of device should my child bring?**

We need students to bring a **Windows 10 laptop** that can connect to our **dual-band** school network. It also needs to have a port for earphones. We have set a **minimum standard** of a Windows 10 laptop with a minimum of 4GB (consider upgrading to 8GB) and a **solid state drive** with 128GB (or more) of storage.

## **Can I buy my child a more powerful computer than the minimum specification?**

Yes, you can. Your child may need a more powerful computer for other things they are involved in, so you can buy something more powerful. That choice is up to you. We recommend insuring the laptop for damage or loss.

## **Can my child use a phone or tablet as their learning device?**

No, a phone or tablet is not a suitable device for classroom learning.

## **Do I need to insure my child's computer?**

We urge all parents to insure the computer against theft or damage. The school does not accept liability for any damage or loss. The laptops listed on our HP portal can be price

## **Where can I buy a BYOD?**

HP (the computer manufacturer) has provided HHHS with our own customised portal to enable you as a parent to buy a device for your child. The packages can include 3 years protection coverage – the terms are explained on the portal. These devices range from Chromebooks up to quite advanced laptops, and they are business-grade devices. They will connect to our network. They will generally be more robust than devices from most retailers.

The link to the portal is here:

[www.hpshopping.com.au/huntershillbyod](http://www.hpshopping.com.au/huntershillbyod) Enter the school code **HuntersHHS**

HP also enable payment plans for the convenience of parents.

### **Do I need to buy software for my child's device?**

Students can download Microsoft Office and Adobe software from the DET student portal for free. It is recommended that you purchase a good virus protection software for the laptop.

### **Who is responsible for the care and maintenance of my child's device?**

That will be you and your child. We encourage our students to take good care of their devices and to handle them gently, but the school is not responsible for damage or loss, even when caused by another student. A strong padded case would be a good idea to protect the laptop.

### **Are there any rules about how my child's device is used?**

Yes. Students will receive introductory training on appropriate use of the devices at school, and they will be learning digital citizenship skills throughout their time at school. The HHHS BYOD Program – User Charter and Permission Form that they ask you to sign sets out a form of Code of Conduct for use of computer devices – both their own device as well as school owned devices. There also rules that every student must follow that are designed to protect the safety of all children at our school and beyond.

### **Should I label my child's device?**

Yes you should. Label it where the label won't wear off. If the device is found in the school we need to be able to quickly return it.

### **What if my family is in temporary financial distress and we can't afford a device?**

We may be able to help with a temporary loan device, but we would appreciate it if you would come and see us so that we can make suitable arrangements. Please email the Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning, Ms Jelfs, to request assistance.

### **What should I do if I think my child is being cyber-bullied?**

Please contact the school at your first opportunity to discuss such a matter with a Deputy.