

Year 5-8 BYOD Information Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We believe devices are integral to our learning and therefore kindly encourage students to have access to their own device which will be used at school every day in Years 5-8.

At Waitākere Primary School, Digital Technologies is used to support and enhance 21st century learning and is a core part of our curriculum. Our delivery of Digital Technologies includes effective use of digital resources and learning tools, collaboration with peers and teachers, and the chance to be part of a wider learning community, as well as learning how to be a positive digital citizen online.

Along with the above points, learning with devices provides students with opportunities to make connections, give our students choice and ownership, increase levels of engagement and allows learning to be even more flexible and responsive to the students' needs and interests.

Neighbouring High Schools have also asked that we familiarise our students with digital technology use, prior to the secondary transition, so that they can continue to be successful as they move on from our school too. To help get you started with purchasing a device for your child, or for renewing their current one, we have included some features we suggest that devices have:

- A screen of 11" or more
- Wi-Fi capability
- A keyboard or be able to be connected to one
- A protective case or bag for transporting between home and school

Other things to note:

- You will not need to purchase the Microsoft package as students are provided with free access to the Office 365 suite (Word, PowerPoint, TEAMS, Sway, Excel, OneNote, Minecraft Educator etc.) while at Waitākere Primary School.
- Some devices that run on older operating systems are not suitable, as they cannot access some of the applications that students use.
- We don't mind what you choose to buy, whether it is a Windows or Chromebook
- Please note that iPads and phones are not a suitable device for school use and are not needed at school

- Please ensure that your child's device is covered under your personal insurance policy as the school does not have insurance for personal devices at school

To operate on our network all devices brought from home will have the Linewize safety software installed. This allows us to keep our children safe while on our school network with continuous filtering and monitoring from 8.45am - 3pm and enables teachers to push sites out to students and pause the internet for classes. Your child uses their school email address to authenticate the system and to sign into all applications used at school.

The email will contain their first name and surname; for example, humpty.dumpty@waitakereprimary.school.nz and your child's teacher will show them how to access and use the Microsoft Applications.

Your child will be required to sign a Responsible Waitākere E Learner contract before using their device at school, and your child's teacher will make sure they understand each part of the contract to help them to stay safe online and look after their device. You may also find it helpful to know that devices will be stored in cupboards when they are not being used, for example, during break times or sports sessions. We would like to thank you for your support in helping us to deliver the Digital Technologies curriculum effectively.

Around mid Term 4, we will be sending out information with deals from local Technology suppliers such as PB Tech and Noel Leeming.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact one of our E-learning Leaders listed below.

Warm regards,

Tamara Marsh tmarsh@waitakereprimary.school.nz

Lexi Lauchlan ljllauchlan@waitakereprimary.school.nz