Merewether Public School
Bring Your Own Device
BYOD Trial 2021

What is BYOD?

Bring your own device (BYOD) refers to a model of technology use where students bring a personally owned device (LAPTOP device) to school for the purpose of learning.
A BYOD program intends to overhaul the way students learn and necessitates the education of many more skills to create a community of students who are digitally literate and cyber aware. The reality is that web-based tools and resources have changed the landscape of learning. Students now have at their fingertips unlimited access to digital content, resources, experts, databases and communities of interest.

Rationale

Merewether Public School has a vision for learning that fosters deep learning, encourages critical thinking and creativity and provides a foundation for authentic learning. The current model of school-supplied technology resources in education is no longer a model that is feasible and cannot realistically meet the demands of teachers and 21st-century learners. MPS values the wealth of learning experiences that come with improved integration and interactions with current technology.
As a school, we continue to enhance the way we use digital technologies to enrich the teaching and learning environment for both teachers and students. This involves the development and use of 'virtual' or 'flexible' learning environments, which extend the classroom experience beyond the physical space of school. In order to have a successful Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program, we need to ensure that all students have compatible devices that align with the school's infrastructure and the learning and teaching environments.
By facilitating BYOD, Merewether Public School will empower students and allow them to be active in determining the way they use technology to support their learning. They will develop a sense of digital citizenship and demonstrate increased awareness of how technology is conducive to authentic learning and application of skills that are essential to succeed in today's technology-based society. Increased access to technology further allows students to collaborate, communicate and share more openly with teachers and their peers.
There is a clear disparity between school funding for technology and the expectations of a society that demands innovation. A successful BYOD program helps to bridge the gap between funding and real-world expectations.

In 2021, MPS is offering a trial BYOD arrangement made available to Years 5 and 6 students. The BYOD model may be further extended in successive years, subject to effectiveness of trial, community interest and feasibility. 2021 will be a trial year at MPS to prepare for the expansion of the program.

What do I need to do to opt into the trial BYOD program?

Included in this pack
• MPS BYOD Policy
• Acceptable Use of ICT (Information Communication & Technology) Student Agreement.
• JBHIFI – Parent Toolkit Document

Carefully read the MPS BYOD Policy and Acceptable Use of ICT Student Agreement.
Complete the Acceptable Use of ICT Student Agreement with your child and return to the office in 2021.
Please note: An Acceptable Use of ICT Student Agreement must be signed and submitted before any device is brought to school for classroom use.

Please direct at further questions to BYOD Coordinator : Katerina.Razmovski@det.nsw.edu.au

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BYOD Policy

Rationale

To ensure that all students and members of our school community understand:

(a) our commitment to providing students with the opportunity to benefit from digital technologies to support and enhance learning and development at school [including providing the opportunity to participate in the Bring Your Own Device program]

(b) expected student behaviour when using digital technologies including the internet, social media, and digital devices (including laptops, Chromebooks)

(c) the school's commitment to promoting safe, responsible and discerning use of digital technologies, and educating students on appropriate responses to any dangers or threats to wellbeing that they may encounter when using the internet and digital technologies

(d) our school's policies and procedures for responding to inappropriate student behaviour on digital technologies and the internet

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1	**Guidelines**

1.1   This policy applies to all students at Merewether Public School.

1.2   Staff use of technology is governed by the Department's Acceptable Use Policy.

1.3   <u>Definitions</u>
For the purpose of this policy, "digital technologies" are defined as being any networks, systems, software or hardware including electronic devices and applications which allow a user to access, receive, view, record, store, communicate, copy or send any information such as text, images, audio, or video.

2	**Implementation - Vision for digital technology at our school**

2.1   Merewether Public School understands that digital technologies including the internet, apps, computers and iPads provide students with rich opportunities to support learning and development in a range of ways.

2.2   Through increased access to digital technologies, students can benefit from enhanced learning that is interactive, collaborative, personalised and engaging. Digital technologies enable our students to interact with and create high quality content, resources and tools. It also enables personalised learning tailored to students' particular needs and interests and transforms assessment, reporting and feedback, driving new forms of collaboration and communication.

2.3   Merewether Public School believes that the use of digital technologies at school allows the development of valuable skills and knowledge and prepares students to thrive in our globalised and inter-connected world. Our school's vision is to empower students to use digital technologies to reach their personal best and fully equip them to contribute positively to society as happy, healthy young adults.

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Student-Owned Devices at Merewether Public School

Merewether Public School aims to provide students with digitally rich 21st-Century learning environments that allow them to inquire, analyse, communicate and create within a personalised learning environment. Our vision includes the opportunity for students (in Years 5 and 6 beginning in 2021) to voluntarily bring a Laptop ONLY device to school that adheres to predefined specifications. This will be an opt-in program that will extend the classroom experience and enrich student learning. The program may be extended to other grades dependent on the success of the technical trial in 2021.

2.4	Our Public goal as a school is to provide best practice teaching that enables, enhances and transforms student learning and outcomes through the effective use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT). We envisage the effective integration and application of information technology will support the teaching and learning of staff and students at MPS.
2.5	We aim to develop a 21st Century learning community where: • Students are engaged in a challenging curriculum that is focused on authentic online learning. • Students will be comfortable using technology in both online and offline applications. They will develop a sense of responsibility for their own educational success. • Teachers function as coaches, mentors, facilitators, and managers of information and use technology to enrich and support all learning across the curriculum. • The School will be an environment where ALL students and staff have ready access to a full range of current technology, software tools, and applications. The School has knowledgeable staff and access to external resources to further the curriculum goals. Executive staff will make professional learning accessible to educators and will implement the most up-to-date practices with regard to the use of technology for learning.
2.6	Students who make the most of the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program (within school expectations) will have access to numerous benefits with regard to resource access, choice in task completion, responsibility and personal organisation. The School encourages all students to participate in the BYOD program, which is subject to your acceptance or the terms and conditions outlined in the BYOD policy.

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2.7   Merewether Public School understands and accepts that all families in our school community are different and their financial situations may differ. Families who wish to purchase a suitable device may do so via the affiliated JBHIFI Education Portal - Coming Soon! Link and school code will be made available as soon as the platform is live. Apologies for any inconvenience.

Merewether Public School has in place arrangements to support families who may be experiencing long or short-term hardship to access devices for school use. Currently shared classroom devices will continue to be accessible for students who require them.

2.8   Students may participate in the BYOD program provided their laptop device has:
- a Windows 10 Operating System
- Dual band (both 2.4Ghz and 5Ghz) wireless that meets 802.11n standards
- An Intel Celeron or above processor
- At least 4GB RAM (we recommend 8GB).
- Enough battery charge to last the school day
- Laptop Protective Carry Case
- Mouse – preferably wired, for trackpad navigation (Optional) Please note: If using a wireless mouse, batteries must be brought from home.
- Compatible headphones

2.9   Please note that our school does not have insurance to cover accidental damage to student devices. Parents/guardians are encouraged to consider obtaining own insurance for their child's device. If opting to buy from the JBHIFI Education Portal, insurance and warranty can be additionally purchased.

2.10   Students, parents and carers who would like more information or assistance regarding our BYOD program are encouraged to contact Katerina Razmovski - Katerina.razmovski@det.nsw.edu.au

2.11   Digital technology, if not used appropriately, may present risks to users' safety or wellbeing. At Merewether Public School, we are committed to educating all students to be safe, responsible and discerning in the use of digital technologies, equipping them with skills and knowledge to navigate the digital age.

2.12   At Merewether Public School, we:
- use online sites and digital tools that support students' learning, and focus our use of digital technologies on being learning-centred
- restrict the use of digital technologies in the classroom to specific uses with targeted educational or developmental aims
- supervise and support students using digital technologies in the classroom
- effectively and responsively address any issues or incidents that have the potential to impact on the wellbeing of our students
- have programs in place to educate our students to be promoting safe, responsible and discerning use of digital technologies, including ICT Scope and Sequence, STEAM Programs, BYOD program, Office 365 and Google Apps
- educate our students about digital issues such as online privacy, intellectual property and copyright, and the importance of maintaining their own privacy online
- actively educate and remind students of our PBL Positive Behaviour for Learning Program that outlines our School's values and expected student behaviour, including online behaviours
- have an Acceptable ICT Use Student Agreement outlining the expectations of students when using digital technology at school
- use clear protocols and procedures to protect students working in online spaces, which includes reviewing the safety and appropriateness of online tools and communities, removing offensive content at earliest opportunity
- educate our students on appropriate responses to any dangers or threats to wellbeing that they may encounter when using the internet and other digital technologies
- provide a filtered internet service to block access to inappropriate content
- refer suspected illegal online acts to the relevant law enforcement authority for investigation
- support parents and guardians to understand safe and responsible use of digital technologies and the strategies that can be implemented at home through regular updates in our newsletter and annual information sheets.

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2:13   Distribution of school-owned devices to students and personal student use of digital technologies at school will only be permitted where students and their parents/guardians have completed a signed Acceptable ICT Use Student Agreement.

2.14   It is the responsibility of all students to protect their own password and not divulge it to another person. If a student or staff member knows or suspects an account has been used by another person, the account holder must notify the classroom teacher as appropriate, immediately.

2.15   All messages created, sent or retrieved on the school's network are the property of the school. The school reserves the right to access and monitor all messages and files on the computer system, as necessary and appropriate. Communications including text and images may be required to be disclosed to law enforcement and other third parties without the consent of the sender.

Student Behavioural Expectations

2.16   When using digital technologies, students are expected to behave in a way that is consistent with Merewether Public School's Values, Behaviour Expectations and Anti-Bullying Program.

2.17   When a student acts in breach of the behaviour standards of our school community (including cyberbullying, using digital technologies to harass, threaten or intimidate, or viewing/posting/sharing of inappropriate or unlawful content), Merewether Public School will institute a staged response, consistent with our policies and the Department's Student Engagement and Inclusion Guidelines.

2.18   Breaches of this policy by students can result in a number of consequences which will depend on the severity of the breach and the context of the situation. This includes:
- removal of network access privileges
- removal of email privileges
- removal of internet access privileges
- Sentral incident record

Student Behavioural Expectations - Continued

2.19   When using digital technologies, students are expected to behave in a way that is consistent with Merewether Public School's Values, Behaviour Expectations and Anti-Bullying Program.

2.20   When a student acts in breach of the behaviour standards of our school community (including cyberbullying, using digital technologies to harass, threaten or intimidate, or viewing/posting/sharing of inappropriate or unlawful content), Merewether Public School will institute a staged response, consistent with our policies and the Department's Student Engagement and Inclusion Guidelines.

2.21   Breaches of this policy by students can result in a number of consequences which will depend on the severity of the breach and the context of the situation. This includes:
- removal of network access privileges
- removal of email privileges
- removal of internet access privileges
- Sentral incident record

3   Evaluation

3.1   Executive Staff and Katerina Razmovski will review the effectiveness of the school's
BYOD Policy on a cyclical basis in accordance with DET guidelines. Next review is November 2021.