22 October 2024

Dear Year 5 Parents and Carers,

Marsden Park Anglican College is committed to providing a supportive and engaging learning environment for all students. We value the rich and deep learning experiences that technology can provide in a stimulating and challenging academic environment. Following the implementation of a Bring Your Own Device Policy (BYOD) for our Year 7 students this year, we are excited to announce that starting in 2025, we will be implementing a BYOD Policy for Year 6 students. Bring Your Own Device refers to students bringing a personally owned device to school each day for the purpose of learning. The device must meet the requirements listed on the next page in order to be able to connect to the school network and receive school-based technical support. Unfortunately, we are not able to support devices that do not meet the listed requirements. A mobile phone does not count as a BYOD and the usual mobile phone policy will continue to apply for all students.

The BYOD initiative aims to enhance learning experiences by integrating technology into the classroom in a meaningful way. Technology and computers have now become a natural part of our children's lives, and they are already using a range of computer skills, websites and apps to support their learning. We have an incredible group of staff who are continually creating rigorous and authentic learning opportunities with technology, and we firmly believe that the transition from Year 6 into Year 7 will be enhanced when the students have the opportunity to explore and use the systems are skills that are currently being used in the Senior School. There are many benefits of a BYOD Policy including:

- **Personalised learning** – students can work at their own pace and use tools that best fit their learning styles.
- **Increased engagement** – technology can make lessons more interactive and enjoyable, helping to keep students motivated and engaged with their learning.
- **Access to resources** – students can access online resources, educational apps and digital tools, enhancing their ability to research and collaborate.
- **Collaboration opportunities** – students can easily collaborate on projects, share resources, and communicate with their peers and teachers.
- **Immediate feedback** – Digital tools often allow for instant assessment and feedback, helping students identify areas for improvement more quickly.
- **Skill development** – BYOD encourages the development of digital literacy and technical skills that are essential as students look to gain employment in the modern world.
- **Encourage responsibility** – students learn to take care of their own devices, fostering a sense of responsibility and accountability.

To support both students and parents we will develop and communicate clear guidelines on how devices can be used for school purposes. We will outline acceptable and unacceptable behaviours and provide resources on device setup, digital citizenship and online safety. We believe that this initiative will greatly enrich the educational experience for our students. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

We look forward to partnering with you to make this transition smooth and successful. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mr Darren Cox
Principal

Mrs Catherine Bust
Head of Junior School

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Specifications

DEVICE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS - HARDWARE

Windows Laptop – Windows tablet PC or MacBook (Intel or minimum M1)
Minimum Requirements for All Devices

- Minimum 13” inch screen size
- Minimum 1920 x 1080 Full HD screen resolution (touch screen is preferrable)
- CPU Computer Processor (recommended Intel i5 or Ryzen 5 or equivalent) - **No ARM processors**
- Minimum 8GB of Memory (16GB recommended)
- 256GB of Storage
- Wireless Connectivity: 802.11AC or WiFi5
- Audio/Video: Headphone and Microphone Ports
- No cellular 3G/4G/5G embedded support
- Full QWERTY Keyboard suitable for touch-typing
- Minimum stated battery life of 8 hours
- Rugged Laptop case
- Operating System for Microsoft Products – Minimum Windows 11 recommended
- Operating System for Apple Products – Minimum OSX 12 onwards

Chromebooks, iPads and Android tablets are <u>not</u> accepted in the BYOD program.

Other Important Information

- Windows 10 will **<u>not</u>** be supported by Microsoft after 14/10/2025
- Microsoft Office 365 Education is available to students for download with their school email address. This needs to be installed on the computer
- The computer must have an antivirus installed. This can either be an in-built, free or paid solution for both Windows and Mac
- It is highly recommended that students back up their work regularly with OneDrive (inclusive in Microsoft Office 365 Education licensing)