Milton State School BYOD Frequently Asked Questions

What is BYOD?
BYOD stands for “Bring Your Own Device.” BYOD is an initiative that will allow students who have personal technology devices to bring them to school to use them for educational purposes to meet their learning needs under the direction of a teacher. For the purposes of BYOD, “Device” means a privately owned wireless electronic piece of equipment, including iPads and Windows devices.

Is the BYOD Program mandatory?
No, if parents opt not to provide a personal device there will still be access to a range of shared school owned devices for use in the classroom, including laptops and iPads.

What are the benefits of BYOD?
Our students are living in a world where they have immediate access to information anytime and anywhere. Many students’ have personally-owned devices that can be used to allow them to learn in their own style and at their own pace. With digital learning, every student can access high quality and rigorous instruction, thereby maximising their opportunity for success in school and beyond.
Specific Benefits include:
- Allows for personalised learning
- Improved student learning outcomes
- Improved collaboration
- Give students greater choice and more independence
- It creates a model for lifelong learning
- Smooth transition between home and school
- Allows for 24/7/365 access
- Provides easier student access to online instructional materials
- Supplements school resources and equipment
- Normalisation of technology
What devices are permitted for 2016?
Year 1, 2 and 3 minimum specification of iPad Air 32Gb wifi (no 3G or 3G disabled for school) and years 4, 5 and 6 minimum specification of Windows 8.1 or Windows 10 device (see device minimum requirements list). These minimum standards are for students newly entering the BYOD Program for 2016.

Where and when can I buy a suitable device?
Parents may buy devices from any supplier or retailer. We have also set up an online portal for you with JB HIFI to access education prices. Simply go to: https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod/ (code is MSS2016)

How will students be allocated to classes?
All year levels involved in the BYOD Program will have a blend of students with BYOD and those who have shared access to school owned devices. There will be no BYOD only classes as such. Most classes currently have 95%-98% of students utilising a BYOD for learning.

What happens if a student uses a device inappropriately?
The Acceptable Use Policy and Behaviour Policy will outline the sanctions for inappropriate use of devices and network. Students and their parents will be required to sign agreements that these policies will be adhered to and that consequences of policy breaches are understood before network access is provided. These documents will be accessible on the school website.

What about security, theft and damage to the physical device?
Devices will be the responsibility of the student. Devices will be stored in classrooms during class time and at break time. Students will be educated in the proper care and appropriate use of their device. Parents will be advised to review their insurance policies to ensure that BYOD devices are covered outside the home, and to provide a suitable protective bag, and sleeve for the
device. The school will accept no responsibility for the security or safety of the device.

**Do I need a warranty?**
We strongly recommend that all devices have some form of extended warranty. While research shows that students take much better care of a device which belongs to them than a school provided device, accidents happen.

**Are there specific requirements that devices must meet to be added to the school network?**
Any device which is to be used as part of a BYOD program will need to be registered with the school. Students are responsible for their devices and both the student and parents are required to read and accept the Acceptable Use Policy.

**How will devices be connected to the school network?**
Students will be provided with wireless access on the BYOD network after they register their devices and return their signed Acceptable Use Policy. Most devices will detect a wireless connection when they are near one and students will still be required to enter their unique username and password. Technical support will be provided to ensure that students can access the secured wireless network. 3G connection will not be allowed and parents will have to remove or password protect their 3G connection so students do NOT access this unfiltered network whilst at school.

**What filtering will be provided when students connect their own device(s)?**
The standard filter which is currently provided on the school network will apply to student owned devices as long as they connect to the school network in line with the Acceptable Use Policy.
What is the policy for charging personally owned devices while at school?
It is expected that personally owned devices are brought into school with a full charge. Students will be made aware that the school is not responsible to provide an opportunity or the necessary power to charge their device during the school day.

What apps/programs do I need to purchase for an iPad/Windows 8 device?
A list of educational apps and programs will be provided by the school for both iPad and Windows devices. These must be purchased and installed prior to the commencement of the school year.
For Windows 8 devices, Microsoft Office will be required to be installed. Most educational apps selected will be free and parents should budget for some paid apps.

What is the policy for printing from personally owned devices?
Students will be able to access printing at school with a teacher’s permission.

What accessories are required or do you recommend?
All devices are required to be placed in a protective case/cover and sleeve. We also strongly recommend that students have a school bag which is suitable for transporting the device safely.

What about viruses?
No computer is immune to viruses or spam so it will be mandatory that all students protect themselves through virus protection programs or apps. Virus protection will need to be regularly updated and scans carried out. If a device is found to have out-of-date or no anti-virus at all, it will be removed from the network until anti-virus protection has been updated.

How much of the time will students be using their own device?
Teachers will direct students to use devices where they are the best tool for learning. This will vary between year groups and subjects studied.
Will the school network be able to cope with BYOD?
A thorough network audit has been undertaken to ensure that there is sufficient wireless network coverage for the number of students, number of devices and activities, which will be undertaken as part of the BYOD program. Milton will be going through a significant infrastructure upgrade in December 2015 and will also see an increase in bandwidth in the New Year.

What technical support will be available to students in school?
There will be no formal technical support other than providing the wireless connectivity for students. Teachers will continue to be trained on how to best utilise technology to enhance the learning experience and learning outcomes of their students, although they are not expected to be technical experts.

What training will be provided for students?
As part of the introduction of a BYOD program students will undergo training on the Acceptable Use Policy. Students will also receive training on; file management tips and techniques, referencing and academic honesty, health and safety when using electronic devices, cyberbullying and cyber safety, plus anything else which the school deems appropriate.

What training will be provided for teachers?
Teachers have undertaken ICT training over an extended period of time and will continue to undertake various professional development opportunities in this area. A comprehensive ongoing Professional Development program is in place.

What training will be provided for parents?
Information evenings, online resources and parent workshops will be available to allow parents to access the advice and support they feel they need. We would like to ‘tap into’ the talented and varied resource base within our parent-body so if you feel you could contribute to any Parent Training activities please contact the school.
**Will an Acceptable Use Policy have to be signed?**

Yes. Devices can only be used in class at the teacher’s discretion and should use them in line with the Acceptable Use Policy and Behaviour Policy.

**Who can I contact for further information?**

Please contact Angela Waugh, Head of eLearning at Milton State School at awaug24@eq.edu.au or the school office for further information.