ICT & BYOD FACT SHEET

BACKGROUND

What is ICT?
ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) incorporates both school resources and student-owned devices. As the future becomes more focused on ICT, the use of technology and the skills required to utilise ICT is becoming both central and critical.

What is BYOD?
BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) is a school initiative that aims to give students greater access to 21st century utilities. BYOD is a privilege that provides students with the opportunity to utilise their personal devices in the school setting for educational purposes, in addition to the school’s ICT resources.

Is it compulsory for students to bring a personal device to school?
Bringing personal devices to school is a privilege, not a mandate. Students will not be disadvantaged or penalised if they opt not to bring a device to school.

What facilities will students have available to utilise at school?
Students will be provided with free Wi-Fi access and select printing access.

What is Wi-Fi?
Wi-Fi is wireless connectivity that enables devices to connect to the Internet. Devices must have a 5 GHz wireless network adapter (802.11n or 802.11ac) to successfully connect to the school’s Wi-Fi network.

RESPONSIBILITIES

What obligations need to be met before students are permitted to bring personal devices to school?
Parents are required to:
- sign the ICT Parent Agreement
- indicate their consent regarding:
  - the use of ICT resources
  - their child’s use of personal devices at school
  - the publication of media/photography in relation to their child

Students are required to:
- read and sign the ICT Student User Agreement
- ensure their devices (if applicable) are safe and secure at all times
- back up their own data and ensure this is carried out on a regular basis

Is the use of 3G or 4G permitted within the school day?
All activities requiring ICT should be conducted offline or through the school’s Wi-Fi. Teachers will not ask students to use their own data. Any costs incurred by the deliberate or unintentional use of 3G or 4G will not be covered by the school.

Will students be able to recharge devices during the school day?
It is not possible for students to recharge their devices at school as classrooms do not have the capacity to handle additional electrical demands for charging personally owned devices.

SECURITY

How can the students protect their devices?
Students are encouraged to set a passcode for their device and have their name and roll class as their home screen for ease of identification.

Will the wireless access be filtered?
The wireless Internet access available to students will be filtered as determined by DoE policies and guidelines.

To what extent does the school monitor Internet access?
Websites and search engines are filtered by a variety of classifications. The DoE monitors all website pages that are accessed by staff and students, regardless of which device they use.

How can parents/careers monitor their child’s Internet usage?
Parents/careers can remove the default browser from their child’s device, restrict the settings and ensure their child uses browsers such as SafeEyes, BSecure and Mobicip, which assist to restrict access.

Can data be retrieved if a personal device is lost?
Students are encouraged to back up their device daily at home in the event that they may later be required to retrieve missing or corrupted files.

E-LEARNING

How will BYOD be used?
Devices can be used to complete projects, research, collaborate, present, record, brainstorm and report. Students will utilise their devices differently in each KLA.

Can MOODLE be accessed on student devices?
MOODLE can be accessed on student devices across all platforms. Most functions can be utilised in a similar manner comparable to the desktop interface.

Will BYOD replace classwork, homework, assessment tasks, examinations or school diaries?
The use of personal devices is intended as a tool to further support student learning, not to replace procedures and processes.

Issued handouts and handwritten notes may be scanned or photographed and stored on personal devices in file managers or via cloud storage.

All homework and assessment tasks, including those completed electronically, must be submitted as a hardcopy, unless otherwise specified.

Since formal exams are handwritten, these skills will continue to be expected and emphasised.

Whilst the use of diaries on personal devices is encouraged, they will not replace the hardcopy of the school diary. Students must continue to bring the issued school diary with them to school each day.
**BYOD SPECIFICATIONS**

**Compatible Devices**
Students may bring a maximum of two devices which will meet their specific educational needs.

Due to ongoing advancement in technology and the number of devices released each year, it is not possible to provide a specific list of approved compatible devices. However, only devices which possess a 5 GHz 802.11n or 802.11ac network adapter will connect to the school’s Wi-Fi. Devices possessing the 802.11 a/b/g adapter (2.4 GHz), will not be able to connect to the network.

As a general rule, devices released from 2010 onwards are likely to have an 802.11ac network card (latest technology) and should run significantly faster than 802.11n devices.

**Platform and Operating System**

- Windows 7 or Windows 8 or newer
- Android 4.x.x or newer
- Apple MacOS X 10.6 or newer
- Apple iOS 6 or newer

**Memory Requirements**
To be able to store and process data effectively, a minimum of 16 GB storage for tablets and 1 TB of storage for laptops with 4 GB RAM is advised.

**Battery Life**
Devices need to be able to run for a minimum of 5 hours continuously.

**EDUCATIONAL APPS**

**Useful Apps**
The applications listed below are available for all three platforms and are utilised across various faculties.

- Adobe Acrobat
- Desmos
- Dictionary
- Evernote
- Find My iPhone
- Flick
- GarageBand
- GoodReader
- iBooks
- iMovie
- Keynote
- Mathletics
- Mobiclip
- Pages
- Photoshop
- Microsoft Excel
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Puffin Browser
- Scientific Calculator
- Skoolbag

Other KLA-specific software and apps, in addition to those listed above, may also be helpful. Some activities may also require the use of cameras or microphones.

**OTHER ESSENTIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Screen Size**
The size of the screen must be suitable for the required activity and duration of use.

**Casing**
Casing needs to be protective (tough and sturdy).

**Weight**
Devices need to be portable and light enough for students to carry each day.

**Consequences**

**What happens if students are found in breach of GRC Peakhurst Campus’ ICT Policy?**

Any student who is found to breach the ICT policy, including misuse of their personal device or malicious damage to another, will have all ICT privileges suspended. This will include the loss of privilege of bringing a personal device to school as well as access to school computers, the Internet and library resources.

In some situations, personal devices may be temporarily confiscated, and in the case of serious or illegal activity, will be handed over to the appropriate authorities for further investigation.

The ICT Policy will be distributed to all students during Week 1 of Term 1.

A copy of the ICT policy is available for download at

http://www.peakhurst-h.schools.nsw.edu.au