

BYOD @ Waikanae School 2023 and beyond

What is BYOD?

BYOD is **Bring Your Own Device**. This is available at Waikanae School for children in years 5 and above starting in 2023. This model of technology is widespread in schools on the Kapiti Coast and throughout New Zealand with the majority of primary and secondary schools adopting a BYOD approach. Our current model of funding school-owned Chromebooks is no longer sustainable.

We recommend Chromebooks as a keyboard is essential for ease of use. Shops have competitive prices on these and are selling Chromebooks for around \$350. They are light, functional, quick to start up and operate, have a keyboard and are perfect for school use many of you might already have one of these in your household. Our local colleges also use Chromebooks so devices purchased at primary school can be taken onto college. Please refer to our [school website](#) for more details.

Please note that we understand that BYOD may not be feasible for every family to afford and where necessary the Board of Trustees will still continue to fund a small set of devices to be used in the classroom. These devices won't be able to be taken home meaning the continuity and access to school work from home will be affected. There are also payment options available with certain providers, please refer to the school website for more information.

How is BYOD used at school?

Children are able to bring their own devices to school to use during classroom time. Each device is then logged in to the secure school network.

Children receive a school Google Gmail account and use this to log in and access their Google Drive account. Teachers use Hapara Dashboard, a virtual classroom application, to create and share documents and give feedback directly to children around their learning. There is no software to download and all of the work is stored safely on our school server and can be accessed from any computer or device at home or school. We have found this is a great way to share and collaborate online in real-time.

Security, Theft or Damage

Responsibility for individual devices lies with the child and family. Children are encouraged to treat their devices with care. Devices and chargers should be named and taken home each night. The school will not be held responsible for the loss of or damage to an individual device. We have a school contract around the use and care

of devices that come to school. We highly recommend a soft shell case to safely store Chromebooks in whilst travelling in school bags.

What does BYOD look like in the classroom?

Children are using devices for a wide range of classroom activities, however, they are encouraged to use the best tool for the job, either pen and paper or Chromebooks. They are unlikely to be using their devices for the entire school day. We have found that many children are more engaged in learning when they are able to use devices. Devices may also overcome the barriers to learning that exist for many children and can help bring the learning alive with engaging tools.

Access to devices allow children to access the internet, present learning, draft writing and create movies etc. It requires children to be able to source, search, evaluate, compare, discard and use information appropriately.

Children will be taught a range of skills, attitudes and values around technology use, including privacy, evaluating the effectiveness and appropriateness of sites, respecting the rights of others, and how to become a positive digital citizens. These are invaluable skills in our modern world.

Internet Safety and Security

The school uses a firewall that blocks offensive, violent, sexual, gambling and social media sites. We adjust the settings as required. We are able to control and block access to gaming sites and can monitor the usage of individual students and staff. Students can only use their devices at school when connected to our secure network.

Teachers devote time to teaching internet safety eg sharing passwords, accessing sites, and uploading information or photos. Children and staff sign internet usage agreements.

If you have any questions please contact either Michelle Fearon or Paul Hammond (04) 9026544.