CRONULLA SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

121 Ewos Parade, Cronulla NSW 2230
Tel: 9523 5649
Email: cronullas-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.cronullasouthps.nsw.edu.au

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BYOD- Bring Your Own Device Program

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Cronulla South Public School has as an option a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program across Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 classes. Our vision is to encourage creative and innovative learning opportunities for students using BYOD as a tool to facilitate and maximise learning.

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) refers to students bringing a personal technology device to school to use for educational purposes under the direction of a teacher. For the purposes of BYOD, 'device' refers to a privately owned wireless laptop. This will also ease transitions into high school, where students are required to bring their own laptops. Please Note: Cronulla South Public School has decided that mobile phones/smartphones/smartwatches and tablets will not be accepted as stated in the attached Digital Devices Use in School Policy.

Students will be able to connect compatible devices to a filtered DoE internet service, providing safe and secure internet access.

There are many reasons to go BYOD at Cronulla South Public School. These include:
● Increased access to online resources.
● Increased access to develop the skills to use technology efficiently and effectively.
● More personalised and differentiated learning is available, e.g. Using Google Classroom as a platform and a variety of apps to produce quality pieces of work, adjusted to individual learners' needs.
● Allows students more control of their learning.
● Develops student organisation skills and a sense of responsibility.
● Creates future-focused learning environments that can increase student engagement.
● Eases transition to high school, where students are required to use laptops more frequently.

Equity is integral to the BYOD initiative at Cronulla South Public School. This is an opt in program for students who can bring in a device. Bringing a device for BYOD is not compulsory and devices will be made available at school for students who cannot provide their own. However, students will not be allowed to take the school devices home; this is where the advantage of having your own device comes in. BYOD also gives students a level of responsibility and allows them to look after a device and manage things like charging. The school will be providing help to parents on how to ensure that devices are kept safe and those devices are managed correctly.

Dr Neil Lavitt
Principal

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BYOD Device Requirements

Wireless connectivity:

The department's Wi-Fi network installed in primary schools operates on the **802.11n 5Ghz standard**. Devices that do not support this standard will not be able to connect and cannot be included in the BYOD program.

*Operating system***:**

We recommend a Chromebook device for 3-6 students. These devices offer the most secure, maintainable and efficient computing device that works well with the applications we use. These are predominantly Google Workspace for Education, Canva and Nearpod.

A legal and licensed version of a supported operating system as well as appropriate anti-virus software (if applicable) must be installed.

Currently supported operating systems include PC Windows 10. Mac OSX 10.14 or above. Or Chrome OS.

Software and apps:

School-based requirements. All software and apps should be fully updated. A Chromebook will ensure ease of updating and is easily maintainable.

*Battery life***:**

The battery of the device should be capable of lasting a minimum of 6 hours during constant use without charge. Most newer Chromebooks manage this easily.

*Memory and RAM***:**

Windows and MacOS computers should have at least 8Gb of RAM and 128Gb of storage space. A Chromebook will require at least 4Gb of RAM and 16Gb of storage for it to work correctly.

****Please note:** Should you wish your child to continue to use their device into high school, the current minimum specifications for BYOD devices at Cronulla High School are: 64 bit with at least 8GB of RAM as well as a Solid State Drive (SSD) with a minimum 256GB storage.**

*Hardware features***:**

Web Camera and microphone. Plus headphone socket.

Ergonomics:

Reasonable sized screen (between 13"and 15") and a sturdy keyboard *to enable continuous use throughout the day.*

Other considerations

Casing: Tough and sturdy to avoid breakage.

Weight: Lightweight for ease of carrying.

Durability: Durable and strong.

Accessories

Carry case: Supply a carry case or skin to protect the device.

Insurance and warranty: Be aware of the terms of insurance policies/warranties for the device. The school will not accept responsibility for loss or breakage.

Back-up storage: Consider a portable hard drive as an appropriate source of back-up storage for essential documents.