



Hillsmeade Primary School BYOD Program.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who is responsible for BYOD devices?

The BYOD device is the responsibility of the family. The cost of loss or repairs to the BYOD device will be the responsibility of the family.

2. What is the purpose of this BYOD Program for Hillsmeade Primary School?

- Flexibility – The school needs to cater for student needs depending on their year level, tasks and future learning requirements. It is sensible for students in years 5 & 6 to pivot to laptops as they will use them in high schools—however, young students may need the portability of an iPad.
- Office365 - Access to Word, Excel, PowerPoint and other Microsoft Office products. Students will receive this software free of charge.
- NAPLAN - From 2022, NAPLAN will be conducted online. Students in Years 3 & 5 can use their own devices to complete this assessment.
- Online and remote learning – In these uncertain times, schools and parents need to prepare students to learn from home. Having their device will assist this if the need arises

3. Where will the BYOD device be kept during the day?

Your BYOD device must be brought to school fully charged every day. When the devices are not being used (e.g. Snack time, lunchtime, during PE, etc.), the BYOD device will be stored in the classroom.

4. Would my child bring a tablet AND laptop to school?

No. You will need to decide which device suits your child's needs for the teaching year. If they require another type of device, the teacher will give them access to a school-owned device.



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5. Will internet access be filtered?

Yes. All internet access via our network (WiFi and wired) is routed through a filter. It is worth noting that no filter system is perfect, given the dynamic nature of the internet. The BYOD program agreement that students and parents sign has clear guidelines for what to do if students attempt to bypass these filters.

6. What about the other students who do not have a device?

Students who do not have a device will have access to school-owned shared devices.

7. Which devices and operating systems can students bring to school?

The table below contains a list of compatible devices.

Devices	Specifications
iPad	The iPad Air, Air 2, Air 3, 6th Generation iPad or above is recommended with a keyboard. Due to their size, the Air Pro and the iPad mini are not supported as part of the 1:1 program.
Windows Laptop	Any Windows laptop with a solid-state drive (SSD) running Windows 10 or 11 and installed with appropriate virus protection. Laptops running Windows 7 devices aren't suitable.
Apple Laptop	The laptop must have OS X Catalina 10.15 or newer.
Chromebook	Chromebook devices will require 128Gb of hard disk space.

8. What if I can't buy one that matches the table of compatible devices?

Only the device mentioned above will be adequate to connect to the school services and have enough battery power to last the day.

9. Do I HAVE to buy a device for 2022?

Absolutely not! There will be shared devices for students who don't bring a BYO device to school.

10. Are my child's devices covered by school insurance?

No. Parents will need to ensure that a warranty or insurance covers their child's device.

11. Can students use their devices before and after school?

Students aren't permitted to use BYOD equipment before or after school on school grounds. However, students may be allowed to use them during OSH.



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12. Would my child be able to join the BYOD Program sometime later in the year?

Yes. When you are ready or feel the need to support your child with their device, sit down with them, go through the BYOD Agreement, and use the link or QR code provided at school to confirm their enrolment in the program.

13. Can my child in Prep – 2 bring a device?

The BYOD program is only for students in Years 3 to 6. We believe that there is no need for other students to bring devices to school at this stage of their learning. Adequate devices will be offered to students in classrooms and during Digitech times.

14. How do I keep my kids safe online?

The Office of The Children's safety Commissioner is a great place to start. The website links currently active support networks and comprehensive information with parents and children of various ages.

The Office Of The Children's safety Commissioner also has comprehensive advice about reporting e-Safety issues.

Links for students:

- <https://esafety.gov.au/esafety-information/get-help>
- Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800.

Links for Parents/carers:

- <https://esafety.gov.au/esafety-information/get-help>
- www.amf.org.au (Alannah and Madeline Foundation)
- Parentline 132289
- APP Fact Sheets for mobile devices.
<https://www.carlyryanfoundation.com/resources/fact-sheets>
- Department of Education policy for personal devices.
<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/personal-devices/policy>