



Kotara South Public School

BYOD FAQ's

Version 6/04/2022

1. What is BYOD?

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) is an educational program where students are able to bring a personal electronic device to school to support their learning for school-related purposes.

2. What will be provided by the school?

The school will provide access to a filtered Wi-Fi internet service. The Department of Education supplies a variety of software including Microsoft Office 365 suite and Adobe Creative Suite. Along with this is a wide array of cloud based solutions including Google Apps, Microsoft Cloud services and cloud based file storage. Due to the multiplicity of devices brought to school, the school is able to offer limited technical support (see below).

3. Who pays for the technology brought to school?

BYOD devices are purchased by, and remain the property of, the family.

4. What types of computing devices may my child bring to school?

Students may bring laptops and 2 in 1 devices. Tablets are not advised due to inefficient data entry capabilities. Apple computers are not advised due to limited compatibility.

5. What will happen if my child cannot bring their own device to school? What about equity?

KSPS has a number of laptops that are available for use. Teachers may book laptops to support lessons that require access to technology.

6. Can my child use a mobile phone/smartphone as their BYOD?

No, due to;

- poor screen size for extended periods of learning
- a poor tool for extended typing, research, learning applications
- ease of distraction by games, texts, social media
- increased chance of disruption to teaching and learning

- greater access to take/disseminate photos and send messages, cheating, cyber-bullying
- possible inequity with some students being unable to afford a smartphone
- a mobile phone is often not the best tool for the task

7. Is there a permission form to sign before a student brings their device to school?

Yes. This is part of the Accepted Practices and Requirements policy.

8. How will theft, loss, or damage of a personally owned device be handled in a school?

The guidelines for the BYOD program specifically address the risk of students bringing their own devices to school. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices. Personal devices are brought to school entirely at the risk of the student.

9. Will I need to have Internet access at home?

It is extremely helpful to have Internet access (wired or wireless) at home in order for a child to make full use of school resources from home, as well the multitude of resources available on the Internet. There are many providers of free Wi-Fi in the community that students could use to access the internet outside of school hours.

** Please be aware that these connections do not provide access to a filtered internet experience as experienced on the school's network.

10. Will the wireless access be filtered?

The wireless Internet access available to students is a filtered service provided by the Department of Education. If students connect using their 3G, 4G or 5G connection then this filtering will be bypassed. This is not covered by the BYOD policy and is not permitted by the school.

11. Will students be able to recharge devices during the school day?

Students should bring their device fully charged to school. Students should not have the expectation that they will be able to charge devices at school. Our school buildings do not have the capacity to charge personally-owned devices.

12. Will students be able to record teachers or classmates (audio or video)?

With the teacher's permission as part of a teacher-directed activity, students can make recordings. Students are not permitted to make any recordings, audio and/or video, without explicit permission from those involved. Consequence may apply if this happens.

13. Can teachers require students to bring their own devices?

Students are not required to participate in the BYOD program. However, students may find it easier to fully engage in lessons with their own device. Many teachers frequently use BYOD as part of lesson delivery.

14. Will students be able to use their devices during lunch and recess?

No, they cannot.

15. Does the school provide Insurance for damage, loss or theft?

No. Families are encouraged to consider private insurance to cover these possibilities.

16. Can a student use another student's device?

No. Due to the inherent nature of personally owned devices, devices should only be used by the owner of the device. Usually, having physical access to a personal device also provides the ability to email or message from the device. Passwords must not be shared.

17. Is the use of 3G allowed within the school day?

The BYOD policy only covers the connection of devices to the school Wi-Fi. Importantly, if students use their 3G , 4G or 5G connection they will not be receiving filtered access to the internet. Accessing sites on the internet must always comply with the school's BYOD policy.

18. As a parent/carer, am I required to add additional software to my child's technology tool such as virus protection, filter, tracking capacity?

Yes. All applicable devices that connect to the internet will need to have antivirus software installed. No other software is expected to be installed on student machines.

19. How will these devices be used in the classroom?

Students will use their devices for a variety of activities which will vary from class to class. Activities may include, but are not limited to: real time collaboration, research for projects, accessing websites with curriculum-related content, keeping track of classroom assignments, completing and uploading assessments and other classwork.

20. Can teachers confiscate a student's device?

Yes. Teachers can confiscate a personal device for inappropriate use that is contrary to any applicable school rules, such as:

- disruptive to the school's learning environment
- a risk to the safety or wellbeing of students, staff or other people
- contrary to any reasonable direction given by school staff about the use of the item
- illegal or otherwise of a nature that causes significant concern for staff
- bullying, intimidating or otherwise harassing others through SMS or text messaging or through photographic, video or other data transfer systems available on the phone
- recording of conversations, including lessons, without the knowledge and permission of the teacher or those involved in the conversation
- downloading or otherwise accessing inappropriate material on the internet such as child abuse or inappropriate or other offensive material
- filming of fights or other criminal behaviour involving students that occur at school, during school activities or while on the way to or from school
- using it in a way that threatens or is likely to threaten the safety or wellbeing of any person
- using it in a way that disrupts an individual's learning or is likely to disrupt the learning environment for others or interfere with the operation of the school
- use that is in breach of any law

21. What action can be taken if a student uses their device inappropriately?

If a student use their devices inappropriately, principals have the right to take action. Depending on the circumstances, action can include:

- banning students from using devices during the course of the school day
- applying student disciplinary provisions
- reporting the matter to the police