

Hi,

From the start of Term Three all students who have returned their new ICT contracts will be able to 'Bring their own learning device' to school for use in classes.

We have held consultation with the staff, parents through the P&C and at a special evening meeting, students through the SRC and now students in year groups.

Students from 10-12 at present are bringing DERNSW laptops to school for use in classes and the staff have developed programs and activities for incorporating ICT into the classroom for years 9-12.

Students in years 11-12 have over the last 12 months been trialling the use of a BYOLD program and the indications are that it is a success.

There is no longer any DERNSW laptop program, therefore, the school has decided, in light of the consultations and the senior program, to extend the BYOLD program to all students 7-12.

We realise there will not be an immediate response by all students as much as we would like it to happen. Similarly, not all teaching and learning programs will be immediately adjusted to accommodate this new policy. However, we are sure that over time we will all embrace the new program.

With regard to the 'approved devices', I was reluctant to give out any examples of devices and still the school does not recommend any particular device. However, as there were some specifics which parents needed to know I distributed a sheet which showed the specifications of devices which the DEC is currently using. I voiced my concerns and suggestions at the parent meeting. These specifications were an indication only and should be taken as minimum requirements. Again no approved devices were, or will be recommended.

Any device will suffice, however, please ensure the device has:

WiFi capability with 802.11 a/b/g/n at 5GHz a battery life of at least six hours screen size at least 11"

comfortable size keyboard

if getting a win tablet make sure the OS is 8.1Pro

as far as software is concerned see the free software from the department at:

<http://nsw-students.onthehub.com>

Further information may be obtained from:

<http://byodsandpit.weebly.com>

Yours faithfully,

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