

Centenary SHS Bring Your Own Device Scheme



Support for non-Windows BYOD devices

This document outlines levels of support for non-Windows devices as part of the School's BYOD program. While some support can be given to these devices, we highly recommend Windows laptops for the following reasons:

- The School's network is based on Windows, so connection and setup is much easier
- School staff are trained in the use of Windows
- We feel the advantages of a common Windows platform outweigh any specific benefits of other platforms

Platforms with limited support

MacBooks

MacBooks often do connect successfully to the School network. However, they are not recommended for the following reasons:

- The nature of our current network means that updates to the Mac operating system (OSX) often cause connectivity issues. Solutions to these issues often takes days or weeks while students are unable to connect to our network.
- School staff are not trained in using Apple devices and can offer little support. Students using a Mac will need to have a good understanding of their operation.
- Some software supplied for specialist subjects is Windows only.

If you do decide to bring a MacBook, please keep in mind the minimum specifications still apply, so some models (for example some MacBook Airs) are not suitable. See the BYOD Buying Guide on our website for recommended specifications, and ensure your MacBook has the equivalent storage, processing power, screen size and battery life.

iPads

iPads often do connect successfully to the School network. However, they are not recommended for the following reasons:

- They may not be suitable for all required tasks that require the use of specialised software.
- Teachers are most familiar with Windows and will prepare lessons with Windows devices in mind. Student many need to find alternative methods to complete some tasks on their iPad.
- Some versions of iPads, such as the iPad Mini, are not compatible with online examinations.

- Apple's automatic updates to iPads often cause connectivity issues with our network. Solutions to these issues often takes days or weeks while students are unable to connect to our network.

If you already have an iPad from Primary School or elsewhere and you are unable to purchase a laptop, you are able to bring the iPad for use here at Centenary SHS. However, for the reasons above we would recommend that, when it comes time to replace/upgrade your iPad, you purchase a Windows laptop instead.

Non-compatible devices

Android

Android devices face similar restraints to iPads along with the added complication of a multitude of different versions and software providers, making effective support extremely difficult. While some Android devices can be connected, it is not guaranteed, with some versions being incompatible with the School network. For these reasons, we cannot recommend or support Android as a student's primary BYOD device.

Other non-compatible devices

- Chromebooks
- LG G3 Smartphones
- Windows RT & S
- Linux / Unix / BSD
- anything not mentioned in this document

This list may change at any time, and slight variances in all products may cause connection issues that are beyond our control.

For more information

Please contact the School IT team on: ict.support@centenaryshs.eq.edu.au