

28 August 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Marsden Park Anglican College is committed to providing a supportive and engaging learning environment for all students. We value the rich and meaningful learning opportunities that technology can offer within a stimulating and challenging academic environment. From Year 6, MPAC implements a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy, which requires students to bring a personally owned device to school each day for the purpose of learning. Families of students entering Year 6 in 2026 are asked to purchase a suitable device that meets the College's listed specifications, ensuring it can connect to the school network and receive technical support. Devices that do not meet these requirements cannot be supported. Please note that mobile phones are not considered appropriate BYOD devices, and the College's existing mobile phone policy will continue to apply.

The BYOD initiative aims to enhance learning experiences by integrating technology into the classroom in a meaningful way. Technology and computers have now become a natural part of our children's lives, and they are already using a range of computer skills, websites and apps to support their learning. We have an incredible group of staff who are continually creating rigorous and authentic learning opportunities with technology, and we firmly believe that the transition from Year 6 into Year 7 will be enhanced when the students have the opportunity to explore and use the systems and skills that are currently being used in the Senior School. There are many benefits of a BYOD Policy including:

- **Personalised learning** students can work at their own pace and use tools that best fit their learning styles.
- **Increased engagement** technology can make lessons more interactive and enjoyable, helping to keep students motivated and engaged with their learning.
- Access to resources students can access online resources, educational apps and digital tools, enhancing their ability to research and collaborate.
- **Collaboration opportunities** students can easily collaborate on projects, share resources, and communicate with their peers and teachers.
- Immediate feedback Digital tools often allow for instant assessment and feedback, helping students identify areas for improvement more quickly.
- **Skill development** BYOD encourages the development of digital literacy and technical skills that are essential as students look to gain employment in the modern world.
- **Encourage responsibility** students learn to take care of their own devices, fostering a sense of responsibility and accountability.

To support both students and parents we will develop and communicate clear guidelines on how devices can be used for school purposes. We will outline acceptable and unacceptable behaviours and provide resources on device setup, digital citizenship and online safety. We believe that this initiative will greatly enrich the educational experience for our students. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

We look forward to partnering with you to make this transition smooth and successful. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mr Darren Cox Principal Mrs Catherine Bust Head of Junior School

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## **BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Specifications**

## **DEVICE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS - HARDWARE**

- Windows 11 Laptop OR Mac laptop NO CHROMEBOOKS, IPADS OR ANDROID TABLETS
- Minimum 13" inch screen size
- Minimum 1920 x 1080 Full HD screen resolution
- CPU processor (Windows Intel i5 or Ryzen 5, or Macbook Intel/M-series) <u>NO ARM/SNAPDRAGON</u>
   PROCESSORS
- Minimum 8GB of Memory (16GB recommended)
- 256GB of Storage
- Wireless Connectivity: 802.11AC or WiFi5/6/6e
- Audio/Video: Headphone and Microphone Ports (AUX or type-C)
- No cellular (3G/4G/5G) embedded support
- Full QWERTY keyboard suitable for touch-typing
- Minimum stated battery life of 8 hours
- Operating System for Microsoft Products Minimum Windows 11 required
- Operating System for Apple Products Minimum OSX 12 onwards

Chromebooks, iPads and Android tablets are not accepted in the BYOD program.

## **Other Important Information**

- Creating your child's account and login on the laptop needs to be completed <u>before</u> being used for school
- Admin rights to authorize installations will be <u>required</u> on student's user accounts when first registering their device onto MPAC's WIFI; after this, it is discretionary if your child continues to have Admin rights on the laptop
- Microsoft O365 Education will be available for students to download as part of their school licensing
- Anti-virus can be in-built such as Microsoft Defender, Apple XProtect, or can be a third party free or paid solution suitable for Windows or Mac. The choice is discretionary.
- Rugged laptop cases are encouraged but not mandatory
- It is highly recommended that students back up their work regularly with OneDrive (inclusive in Microsoft Office 365 Education licensing)