Bring Your Own Laptop Policy 2021

The role of technology in learning at KWS

Student use of digital devices and online services in schools is intended to enhance learning, wellbeing and educational attainment. Digital devices and online services can help students develop the skills needed for digital literacy, creativity, critical thinking, problem solving, interpersonal relationships and collaboration.

The Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) lists ICT Technology as one of the seven key capabilities students need to be a successful learner.

However, it is important to note that the role of technology is to assist and enhance but not to drive the learning at KWS.

The KWS BYOLT Program can only function if all students have access to appropriate technological resources in their classes. The KWS expectation of students' homework and independent learning can only function across all key learning areas (KLA's) if all students have access to technological resources that are accessible both inside and outside of the classroom (home and/or boarding environment).

Whilst the KWS BYOLT Policy inherently imposes an expectation on students and their families in supplying a device that is integral to the appropriate functioning of the curriculum, it is important to note that the Teaching and Learning is not driven by technology, it is enhanced by it. To this end, the frequency and type of students' use of technology will differ from one subject area to another and will be determined by each individual teacher. The nature of the curriculum area and the skills/content being taught for any particular lesson will determine the use of technology in the classroom.

In recognition of the importance of handwriting as an essential skill, involving more complex motor and cognitive skills than keyboarding and critical for HSC performance, it should be noted that there will be more of a focus on handwriting than keyboarding in some classes.

In line with the school's commitment to improving reading and writing as part of the Literacy Drive, the expectation is that students will continue to use hard copies of text books in most circumstances as per the 2021 Stationery List.

Please note that this is a BYO Laptop policy and not a BYO Device policy. Students will require a laptop. Phones, tablets and iPads will not adhere to this policy.

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From 2021, there will be a change to the KWS Student Technology Pathway:

- **From 2021** all Senior School students (Year 7–12) will require, and should provide, their own unsupported laptop. It is strongly recommended that Year 7 students and students new to the school purchase a laptop that meets the School's minimum specification requirements. (see below).

- All students in current Year 7 (2020) will be required to return their school provided iPads and should provide their own unsupported laptops from 2021.

- **From 2023** all students in Year 7–12 will require and should provide their own unsupported laptop that meets the School's minimum specification requirements (see below).

Unsupported BYO Laptops will be provided with a limited suite of ICT support and services via the school help desk, as detailed below. No levy is charged for this service.

The Minimum Device Specification below helps ensure that students experience effective use of technology. Older, slower devices are prone to issues and are problematic within the classrooms and boarding houses.

Only devices meeting the minimum specification can be connected to the School's network and all devices must have the School's anti-virus software installed.

It is the responsibility of students to arrive at school each day with their laptop fully charged. Whilst there are some charging facilities in school that are available for use during lunchtime and recess, students should not be relying on the use of these. Most General Purpose Classrooms do not have multiple facilities for the charging of laptops in class and students will not be permitted to charge their laptops during lesson time.

Computer BYO Laptop Minimum Specifications

All BYO Laptops must meet the following minimum specifications:

Operating System:
Windows 10 or Mac OS El Capitan or newer.

Storage:
Minimum 100GB Hard drive space (SSD recommended for higher speeds and stability).

RAM:
8GB minimum (for Textiles, Visual Arts, ICT students 16GB minimum and dedicated graphics card or equivalent).

Wireless Capabilities:
Must have a wireless card capable of connecting to 5GHz networks.

Software:
Sophos Anti-Virus must be used - this is provided by the school free of cost.

Microsoft365 - Please note that the School will provide students with access to the Microsoft Office 365 Suite – there is no need to purchase the licensing for Office 365 with the Laptop.

Case/Cover:
Drop/shock protective case.

Peripherals:
Earphones.

Battery life:
A minimum 8 hours battery life is desirable.

Recommended Warranty & Peripherals specifications:

Warranty:
Minimum 2 years, recommended 3 years of warranty.

Peripherals:
USB/wireless mouse.

We recommend that all new students to Year 8 in 2021 purchase a BYOLT as KWS will not be supplying new laptops to students.

Mobile phones and Smart watches

As per the Mobile Phone and Smart Watch Policy, students are not permitted to use their mobile phones or smart watches in class unless invited to do so by their teacher.

The classroom teacher may confiscate a device that is used without permission.

ICT Service Desk

Located in the School library, the ICT Service Desk provides students with timely help and support for laptop problems.

A basic troubleshooting service is provided for Unsupported BYO Laptops for boarders and students.

Please note that there is no hardware repair or hot-swap service for unsupported BYO Laptops. These can normally be arranged under your device warranty.

Contact us

Contact the Helpdesk for advice and support:

Phone - 02 6392 0222
Email - helpdesk@kws.nsw.edu.au

Student Admin and Induction

Day 1 Term 1 2021 - Friday 29 January 2021

The program for the morning of Friday 29 January 2021 will incorporate the Student ICT and provide an opportunity for students to check printing connection, Frog access, email set-up and etiquette, basic Microsoft applications and help with the set-up of files/folders and file organisation.

ICT Support Services

KWS provides the following services to students for iPads and unsupported BYO Laptops:

Service, support or components	
Device use in classroom for teaching & learning	✓
Filtered internet, wifi and connection assistance	✓
Device set-up and installation, in-class support	✗
MS Office 365, OneDrive and printing support	✓
OS, iOS, firmware, driver troubleshooting and support	✗
"Hot-Swap" service when device breaks	✗
Facilitate device repairs	✗
Procure and deploy apps and software	✗
Anti-virus support and malware removal	✗
Data loss prevention (reporting)	✗
Data loss prevention (encryption)	✗
KWS authorised application licensing	✗

Frequently Asked Questions

Does KWS recommend any brand or retailer?
KWS does not recommend any individual brand or retailer.

Can I bring a MacBook?
Yes, if it meets the KWS Minimum Specifications. Note: KWS are geared up to support Windows devices and iPads, but not MacBook or other Apple devices.

What help is there for unsupported BYOLT devices?
There is minimal support provided for BYOLT devices. These must meet a minimum specification to qualify to connect to the School WiFi. The KWS Anti-Virus (Sophos) must first be installed on each device. Instructions for this are provided on the ICT site on the KWS Portal.

Staff and students are expected to follow the self-help instructions on the KWS Portal before seeking help with their UBYOLT (Unsupported Bring Your Own Laptop). The ICT Support team will help students only after there has been an attempt to self- service via the ICT KWS Portal site to:

- Assist with KWS Anti-Virus (Sophos) and Adobe installation (for those requiring Adobe for selected subjects);
- Connect to the WIFI and access the filtered internet;
- Use One Drive for Business, Microsoft 365, emails and printing; and
- Connect to and use the KWS Port and Learning Management Service.

If the KWS Anti-virus (Sophos) or any other security software required by the school is removed or tampered with, the device will be removed from the School WiFi and there is no malware removal or remediation service. Any device infected with malware is not permitted onto the KWS Network.