

BYOL FAQs

Q: What is BYOL?

A: *BYOL stands for "Bring Your Own Laptop." BYOL is an initiative that will allow students who have personal technology devices to bring them to school, to use them for educational purposes to meet their learning needs under the direction of a teacher.*

Q: What are the benefits of BYOL?

A: *Our students are living in a world where they have immediate access to information anytime and anywhere. Many students have personally-owned devices that can be used to allow them to learn in their own style and at their own pace. With digital learning, every student can access high quality and rigorous instruction, thereby maximising their opportunity for success in school and beyond.*

Specific benefits include:

- *Allowance for personalised learning*
- *Improved student learning outcomes*
- *Improved collaboration*
- *Give student greater choice and more independence*
- *It creates a model for lifelong learning*
- *Smooth transition between home and school*
- *Allows 24/7/365 access*
- *Provides easier student access to online instructional materials*
- *Supplements school resources and equipment*
- *Normalisation of technology*

Q: Why only allow laptops?

A: *We believe in a consistent approach to ensure best productivity with regards to maximising student learning outcomes.*

Q: Which year levels can BYOL at Dalby SHS in 2021?

A: *All students are welcome to bring their own laptop to school to supplement their educational requirements. This may be to research and prepare assignments. Year 7 and 8 students who BYOL will have dedicated IT-based pedagogical practices.*

Q: Will I be expected to purchase a new laptop and do I have to purchase from a particular store e.g. Dell, HP?

A: *No, you can choose to use a laptop that you already own or purchase a new laptop but it must meet the minimum specifications required by the school. No, we will not recommend a store where you can purchase a laptop; however, we can provide details of providers. We do not endorse any one store.*

Q: Should we purchase a carry case for the laptop and if so, which one should we buy?

A: *Yes, you should purchase a carry case. We recommend that the carry case should protect both the front and back of the laptop. We will not recommend a store where you can purchase a case or cover. We do not endorse any one store.*

Q: Will Year 7 students use their laptop in every session of everyday?

A: *This is unlikely due to the practical nature of some year 7 electives (ie Home Economics and/or Performing Arts).*

Q: Can my child bring a 3G enabled laptop without the SIM?

A: Yes. The reason why we do not want external controlled Internet access is that by the students going through our school wireless, they are also going through Education Queensland Internet filters, helping protect our students from accessing inappropriate content.

Q: Are we required to purchase a stylus pen?

A: Yes, if you purchase a laptop with touch screen possibilities.

Q: Will my child require a username and password?

A: Yes. It is a departmental requirement that a username and password is used to access the school network. This is provided by the school.

Q: My child has a laptop at home already. Will that laptop be suitable for use at school?

A: Any laptop that meets the minimum specifications for the BYOL program is suitable for use at school. These specifications will be communicated at the parent information evening.

Q: Where can I purchase a suitable laptop?

A: Laptops can be purchased from a range of retailers.

Q: What happens if a student uses a laptop inappropriately?

A: The Electronic Devices Policy will outline the sanctions for inappropriate use of laptops and network. Students and their parents will be required to sign agreements that these policies will be adhered to and that consequences of policy breaches are understood before network access is provided.

Q: What about security, theft and damage to the laptop?

A: Laptops will be the responsibility of the student. During class time students will be able to bring their laptop into class, unless it is not practical to do so (ie HPE prac). Laptops will need to be stored in bags at break times. Students can opt to get a locker to secure items whilst at school, hire available through Textbook Hire.

Students will be educated in the proper care and appropriate use of their laptop. Parents will be advised to review their insurance policies to ensure that BYOL is covered outside the home, and to provide a suitable protective bag for the laptop. The school will accept no responsibility for the security or safety of the laptop.

Q: Do I need a warranty?

A: We strongly recommend that all laptops have some form of extended warranty. While research shows that students take much better care of a laptop which belongs to them than a school provided laptop, accidents happen.

Q: What is the policy for charging personally owned laptops while at school?

A: It is expected that personally owned laptops are brought into school with a full charge. Students will be made aware that the school is not responsible to provide an opportunity or the necessary power to charge their laptop during the school day.

Q: What is the policy for printing from personally owned laptops?

A: Students will be able to access printing at school.

Q: How much of the time will students be using their own laptop?

A: Teachers will direct students to use laptops where they are the best tool for learning. This will vary between year groups and subjects studies.

Q: What training will be provided to students?

A: As part of the BYOL program students will undergo training on the Acceptable Use Policy and the changes which have been introduced in the light of BYOL will be highlighted and reinforced. Students will also receive training on; file management tips and techniques, referencing and academic honesty, health and safety when using electronic devices, cyberbullying, plus anything else which the school deems appropriate.

Q: What is “Intune Device Enrolment”?

A: Intune Device Enrolment is the technical term used to describe the procedure that students need to perform to get their laptops operational on the school network. Dalby State High School uses a system that allows safe, secure, and largely automatic on-boarding for most laptops, and information about the use of this system will be provided to students when they join the BYOL program. Students will require administrative access to complete the Intune Device Enrolment process. If students require any assistance with Intune Device Enrolment of their laptop, they are free to contact the school's ICT Support.

Q: Will the school assist me with home internet connection settings, or issues?

A: This is not part of the support offered by the school. The school's support is limited to providing assistance with Intune Device Enrolment of the laptop to the network and curriculum related inquiries. If you require assistance for personal issues regarding your laptop, your home internet service provider or private computer technician should be able to assist with these enquiries.

Q: Do students need to backup the data stored on their laptop?

A: Backup of laptop data is the student's responsibility. Work that is completed at school can be saved to the school's servers. However, work completed at home or stored on the laptop will need to be backed up in case the laptop encounters a problem such as a hardware failure.

Q: How will students be kept safe online?

A: Access to the Internet at school is filtered. As part of the curriculum, students are instructed on Cyber safety. At home, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to ensure any appropriate content filters or controls are applied to internet services. The school accepts no responsibility for consequences of internet access outside the school.

Q: What should I consider if I am purchasing a new laptop?

- Specifications – minimum specifications will be provided at the parent information session
- Life of the device – consider the length of time you require the device to service the needs of your family
- Add-ons – beware of adding unnecessary additional features as this will increase the price of the device
- Length of warranty – extending the warranty to 3-4 years is advisable
- Warranty conditions – consider what the warranty covers (read the fine print)
- Personal contents insurance – determine if this covers laptop/digital device damage away from the home (accidental damage)
- Cost of repairs – screen and keyboard are the most commonly damaged parts

Q: Who can I contact for further information?

A: Please contact the school office on 4669 0900 or admin@dalbyschools.eq.edu.au for further information.