



Garden Suburb Public School
Prospect Road Garden Suburb, New South Wales, 2289
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2023 BYOD Initiative

Dear Parents and Carers,

Garden Suburb Public School will be continuing the Bring Your Own Device initiative in 2023. Students in Year 5 and Year 6 (Stage 3), will be able to bring laptops to use for educational purposes. Having ongoing access to technology will help your child develop greater independence, increase engagement, and develop skills required to thrive in the 21st Century.

Curriculum

Student devices will be used to access resources, complete assignments, and for personal organisation. Educational activities may include researching information, producing documents, analysing data, participating in surveys, producing videos, reading e-books, creating blogs, taking notes, or scheduling events. **The use of the device is at the sole discretion of the teacher.**

Digital Citizenship

A focus of this initiative is digital citizenship, which relates to the responsible use of technology. Your child will learn digital skills, ethics, etiquette, and online safety. These are important aspects of participating in today's world.

Safe and Secure

To maintain a safe and secure learning environment, a filtered Internet connection will be provided for students. They will not be permitted to use a personal broadband connection such as a 4G phone network. Also, students will only be able to use their device under the direct supervision of their teacher/s. Any unauthorised or inappropriate use can result in the device being confiscated and privileges being revoked. If inappropriate material has been accessed and/or shared, parents will be contacted to discuss this matter. Classrooms will be locked at lunch and recess and a safe place for storage will also be provided when not in use. It is the expectation that students will take their device home each day for charging so that it is functional and can be accessed the following day.

Responsibility

Students are solely responsible for their device. They must bring it fully charged to school. Similar to other personally owned items, Garden Suburb Public School is not liable for loss, damage, misuse, or theft.

What devices are allowed?

The initiative will function with the use of **Windows laptops – we have found that Chromebook devices are difficult to connect to and stay connected to our network and would recommend against these.** Devices will need to be purchased by all interested families. For the program to function effectively, students will need access to technology on a daily basis. These laptops will be able to follow the students through their education journey. If your child already owns a functioning laptop, we are happy to accept this device provided it can access the wireless internet and meet the specified requirements. **Windows devices are recommended with their**



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increased functionality in the classroom, but we will not accept smart phones and tablets for this initiative.

Where to buy?

As this is a big investment, we want parents to be supported as much as possible. We are in the process of setting up buying portals with JB Hi-Fi and Learning with Technologies. It is not mandatory that you buy from these suppliers, in fact we encourage parents to find the best deal for their family.

JB Hi-Fi (2023 list and code to be issued soon):

<https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod/>

The Bring Your Own Device program has responsibilities for students and our school as outlined:

In the BYOD program students must:

- read the policies and procedures for bringing your own device
- understand and continue to demonstrate knowledge of their responsibilities
- connect to the school before being approved
- ensure their devices are safe and secure at all times
- keep their devices safe using carry cases, screen guards, etc
- use devices according to school and NSW DoE policies
- have a set of headphones and mouse

The school will provide:

- access to the wireless network for registered student devices
- access for students to download and use Microsoft and Adobe Software
- access for staff to download and use Microsoft and Adobe Software
- guides to connect common devices to the wireless network
- authenticated, monitored, filtered internet access through the DoE network
- limited/short term loan Laptops for students who do not wish to bring their own device
- support for teachers to use device-neutral activities to enhance learning in their areas
- access to Google and Microsoft Apps for collaborative learning on their portal under learning

The school will not provide:

- wireless access for non-school activities
- charging, insurance or overnight secure storage for student devices
- technical or warranty support for student devices
- repairs, maintenance or replacement of damaged student devices

Minimum Requirements:

Form Factor: A Windows device with a camera and microphone built in.

Processor: Dual core processor or better

Minimum Screen Size: 11.6" screen



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Memory: 4GB RAM

Storage (Windows Devices): 64GB SSD

Note: Students are recommended to make use of a storage device such as the Office 365 OneDrive or Google Drive to save work. These accounts are accessed through the student's DoE login and allow unlimited storage.

Wireless Compatibility: Wireless connectivity required. Devices that connect via the 802.11n wifi standard, on the dual band both 5 Ghz and 2.4 Ghz frequency devices will connect.

Battery Life: 8 Hours battery life

Protective casing: Students are required to store their device in a suitable protective case when not in use.

Software Requirements:

Windows 10 and Office 365 are available as a free download to students through the DoE Student portal. You must be able to install your own software from third parties (such as installing Google Chrome onto Microsoft Windows 10).

Other options to consider

1. Accidental Breakage Insurance (Covers cracked screens, spills, accidents) – **we highly recommend this option**
2. Storage cases for transport to and from home
3. Including the device on home insurance policies for theft

Participation in this initiative is voluntary and classroom teachers will continue to provide opportunities for all students to access the school's laptops and to ensure no student is disadvantaged by this initiative.

If you have any further questions or concerns please feel free to contact the school or Mrs Fletcher.

Thank you

Victoria Sturman
Relieving Principal

Rochelle Fletcher
Co-ordinator