



Future Focused Learning Strategy

As part of our Future Focused Learning Strategy here at Brooklyn School we are ready to implement our next stage. In the Moa Syndicate we have been piloting Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) for the past two years, on an optional basis, and next year have agreed to introduce it to all year 7 and 8 students. Many schools in the Wellington region have recently introduced BYOD, including most of the secondary schools that our students carry on to, so we believe it is timely to adopt it at Brooklyn as well.

“Digital technologies have revolutionised how we live and work, and are increasingly influencing almost every facet of our lives. To participate successfully in society and get the jobs and careers they want, today’s students need to be confident using and creating a broad range of digital technologies in a variety of settings.” Education Gazette July 2016

Learner Agency

The purpose and goals of this learning with 1:1 digital devices BYOD option is to develop and lift student achievement across the curriculum. A modern learning environment is where learning is enhanced so students are better prepared for and experienced in a range of digital media and tools.

The learning needs of students in the 21st century are different to those of previous generations. The NZ Curriculum reflects this need with a strong focus on promoting digitally capable, global citizens.

Technology is moving at a fast pace and many of the careers we are preparing our students for do not yet exist. Skill-sets no longer revolve around merely learning facts, as this information is now at our fingertips. E-learning and BYOD provides a structure for delivering a responsive curriculum and beginning this learning at primary will help foster a smoother transition to college.

Our pilot throughout 2015/2016 had several Year 7/8 students demonstrate the benefits of bringing their own devices to school. In addition the classrooms have had a number of laptops in each classroom, but these have often had to be shared.

A full BYOD classroom has unlimited potential to enhance and improve learning by opening new and different ways of learning.

- Quicker access to information found on the World Wide Web.
- Devices and learning are taken home.
- Increased engagement from learners.
- File and information sharing between teachers and students.
- Collaboration through connected learning.
- Future ready students.
- Personalised Instruction through flipped classroom & individual access.
- Increased communication between home and school
- Familiarity with the device and its setup.



Devices and Support-What Type of Device?

After considerable research we have opted for Chrome books, this research has looked at what other schools are adopting, robustness and suitability for the classroom environment and cost.

The benefits of Chromebooks

Many other NZ schools are already using this device and finding it the ideal choice for classrooms. Some of the reasons for this are: a long battery life (requiring no charging throughout the school day), attached keyboard and reasonable size screen, able to get online quickly, lightweight for carrying between home and school. Having one preferred device also increases equity between students e.g. they are all on a level playing field. Chromebooks are also devices that are used at Wellington High, Wellington Girls and Wellington East Girls College, which means that most Year 8 students can keep using them through to college. (Wellington College recommend I pads.) Students will be using 'GAPE' (Google Apps for Education) as their main learning platform, which enhances their ability to work collaboratively and share work between homes and school, teachers, parents and peers.

The Chromebook is a new type of computer specifically designed to get you on the web as quickly as possible. They're faster, simpler, and more secure than traditional laptops.

What makes Chromebooks different?

1. **All your work is done in a browser.**
2. Send mail, edit photos, create documents — you can do all of these activities in the browser, thanks to thousands of apps on the web. There's no complicated software to install.
3. **All your stuff is saved on the web.**
4. Everything -- your apps, documents, settings -- are all stored safely on the web, and not on the device. So you'll have constant access to your stuff even if you're using another computer.
5. **You can surf the web anytime, anywhere.**
6. Chromebooks connect quickly to your preferred wireless or wired networks. Some Chromebook models also come with built-in mobile broadband access, so you can get online anywhere you can make a phone call.
7. **Chromebooks start up fast and last all day long.**
8. Chromebooks start up quickly and resume instantly from sleep. Your favourite websites load quickly, with full support for the latest web standards and Adobe Flash. Last but not least, you don't need to worry about power because the battery lasts all day.
9. **Your device will always be up-to-date.**
10. Each time you turn your device on, it automatically updates itself with the latest features, hardware and system updates, and anti-virus software.
11. **You can safely share your device, not your information.**
12. People can sign in with their own Google Accounts on your device to access their own Google apps, bookmarks, and settings. Or they can browse the web as a guest, without signing in. Either way, your personal files are never accessible outside your account.
13. **You are protected by built-in security.**



14. Each webpage and application you visit runs in a restricted environment. So visiting one page that's been infected with something malicious can't affect anything else on your computer.
15. **You won't need that much RAM.**
16. Since you won't have client apps to manage, you don't need that much RAM-- everything you're doing is taken care of by super-fast and super secure supercomputers.

As part of the transition to Chromebooks for 2017, we are happy for students who already have an iPad or are intending to purchase one for Wellington College in preparation for 2018 to use this if it has a Chrome browser loaded. We provide a list of essential apps to be loaded onto the Ipads so they complement what is used in class.

We are in the process of confirming a special price deal with Cyclone Computers, Harvey Norman and Noel Leeming and will sent this out next week together with the specifications required.

FAQ:Frequently asked Questions

The Ministry of Education is clear that children should not be disadvantaged if they lack a device. How will Brooklyn address this?

We are fully aware that some families have limited finances and ensuring everyone has access to a device is important to us. This is one of the reasons we prefer one device option as it raises equity and provides a level playing field. If a student does not have a device we will work with their families to make sure they have access to a device and we will have some school-owned devices available.

Where is the evidence to support the claim that students education will benefit from the addition of screen time in class?

Most of the research is based on the diverse needs of the 21st Century Learner, as opposed to screen time. It is key to remember the *device is the tool, not the curriculum*. The device is a mechanism to access learning, just as textbooks are. **The children will not be in front of a screen all day as we will still provide the varied range of learning experiences for our children we currently provide.**

Is there a cost to families to use GAFE (Google Apps for Education)?

No cost to families. The school will pay the set-up fee for each student and have limited technical support available to assist with the setup and management of the device.

Do families need to purchase antivirus software for the chromebooks?

No anti-virus software required.

Is it compulsory?

It is not compulsory for all Year 7 - 8 students to have Chromebooks. If your Year 8 child is going to Wellington College in 2018 you may like to purchase an iPad as recommended for Year 9 but they will need to be able to load specified apps to access the tools.



There will be a limited number of laptops available in each class for students to share for those without a device of their own. .

Can my child use another device from home instead?

Other schools experiences have shown us that having a single device enables the optimum use of the device for the entire class, and the teachers. Multiple devices using multiple platforms and varied programmes result in an unacceptable level of downtime of the devices, due to incompatibility issues, and create more work for the teachers outside of their teaching role. For this reason the decision has been made to only allow Chromebooks to be brought to school by children, except as we have mentioned previously there will be some transitional arrangements for 2017. Under certain circumstances we allow other devices to be used. This is on a case by case discussion with the Assistant Principal.

Will my child maintain and improve his/her handwriting ability?

We recognise the importance of handwriting skills, children will still use pen and paper for parts of their learning. By 2017 the government has indicated that all NCEA level subjects will be examined electronically – keyboard skills are becoming an inherent part of how our children will learn.

Will my child play games on the Chromebook at school?

Certain educational games may be used by the teacher to assist the students with their learning. Students will only be allowed to use their Chromebooks for learning activities, under the direction of the teacher.

How will the school keep my child safe while using the Internet?

Just as we currently do, we will continue to have filtered access to sites accessible through our network. You will already have signed a digital user agreement for your students using the existing laptops.

How will the school keep the Chromebook safe while my child is at school?

There will be a user agreement for students and parents to sign and this will outline some expectations around the care of the device. Students bring a Chromebook at their own risk but classroom teachers will be expected to ensure that provision is made to both educate the child and assist them to care for their device. There will be a lock-up storage area for devices at morning tea and lunchtime and at times of the day they won't be in use. You should make sure you have the device insured as the school will not be responsible for breakages or damage. Devices need to come to school fully charged.

What about insurance cover?

Insurance covering the device is the responsibility of parents/caregivers. Usually devices will be covered under contents insurance but it would pay to check with your insurer. Many retailers also offer specialist cover for accidental damage of devices.

Will my child be the only one using their device?

As learning is a collaborative experience there may be times when your child is required to "share their screen" with other students however they would remain in control and have responsibility for their device. We would not request your child to lend their device to others.

Will pen and paper no longer be used?

Pen and paper will still be used. Some tasks (notes, planning) can be easier and quicker when performed by hand and allow for viewing alongside a device. It is about choosing the right tool for



Brooklyn School Est. 1883

Take up the challenge - Mauria te taki

the job, whether that be pen, paper or a device. A revised stationery list will be provided taking the reduced use of pen and paper into consideration.

If you would like to discuss this further please contact Liz Rhodes

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