

Northcross BYOD and eLearning Options 2016—2017

eLearning is a key component in all Northcross classrooms and our vision is that technologies will be integrated appropriately to support authentic, higher order and collaborative learning.



BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) - we strongly encourage students to bring a mobile device (should adhere to NX minimum specs—see below) to support their learning in the classroom. These will have access to the internet and the school online environment via the Northcross WiFi. Those bringing a personal learning device will be required to complete the BYOD Mobile Contract early in 2017.

Some classes may have more students with their own devices than others but all students with a device will be

A BYOD Evening will be held at Noel Leeming in Albany for Northcross families later in the year. A range of devices will be on sale. We will notify families by email, via contributing schools and the Northcross website.

Minimum Specifications for Own Device*

A device may fall into the following categories:

(1) laptop (2) notebook (3) tablet

Must have at least a 10" screen

Be WiFi capable

Keyboard—onscreen or portable (must be able to type)

Antivirus and operating system updates installed and up to date.

Also recommend the following:

WiFi N capable

USB capable

Notes on the NX BYOD

- 1) All students will have secure access to the NX WiFi. Access is monitored and delivered via the school's fast fibre connection and enterprise-class firewall.
- 2) All students will adhere to the school's Acceptable Use Policy and Digital Citizenship criteria.
- 3) Students bringing their device are ultimately responsible for that device on the way to and from school and while at school. We do recommend having any device covered by the family's contents insurance policy. Northcross is not liable for any damage or loss to a student's device.
- 4) Northcross reserves the right to restrict access to the NX BYOD or to confiscate a device if a student is deemed to have broken digital protocol or Cyber Use guidelines.

What we have found:

As a household your decision will be based on your child's IT knowledge and experience. Every student is unique and one operating system may be preferred to another. We are happy to give advice if required.

DEVICE		
Windows 7, 8.1 or 10 Laptop or Notebook	Recommended	Most versatile. Range of devices available.
Apple Mac Books with latest OS	Worth considering	More expensive if buying new.
Google Chrome Books	Worth considering	Good value for money.
Apple iPads or Samsung Tablet with keyboards	Not recommended	Limitations with no keyboard and with some applications.
Other Android Tablets	Not recommended	Limited in some applications.

NOTE: From our experience we have found that devices less than 3 years old have been more suitable and reliable. Should not be compromised with add-ons or a multitude of games & recreational applications.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the benefits of a student having their own device? You know your child the best and what suits their learning but generally, benefits include the following:

- * Greater access to research a wide range of information.
- * Increased access to Web tools that support learning e.g. Mathletics, Scratch, Google Apps for education
- * Development in digital knowledge and understanding.

Can a student device be left at school?

Every class will have a lockable storage unit where on occasions devices can be kept overnight if required .

Will my child be expected to share their device?

No— a student's device is exclusively for their learning. If they share their device it is ultimately still their responsibility.

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Frequently asked questions continued.....

How much time is spent on a computer/device? This can vary from day to day and largely depends on the classroom tasks. Breaks are regular as the class programme is broken into learning periods. The use of pen and paper, having discussions, reading books, hands on building and creating along with a range of digital technologies are all part of the blended classroom programme.

[What are the Hardware and Software Considerations?](#)

How can my child's computing device connect to the Internet?

Northcross Intermediate provides a wireless network which students may connect to when using their devices are at school.

Are there suggested accessories?

Providing a padded bag or protective case is highly recommend. This will provide more protection for the day to day use of these computing devices. A headset with a microphone will be useful when accessing a website with audio and/or video. We would also require devices to have a keyboard (either attached or on screen).

Will there be "charging stations" so my child's electronic device can be recharged?

Considering today's battery technology, the device's battery charge should be sufficient for lessons which require its use throughout the day. A device should be fully charged at home overnight. Students are able to use their power adapter if they have the teacher's permission.

What software will be needed on my child's computer?

No software needs to be purchased as students will use a web-based file storage system providing many productivity tools including a word processor, spreadsheet programme, and a presentation programme. Students will be able to use these applications along with having storage online.

Because purchasing a computing device is a personal choice, anyone may purchase and use other productivity tools that best suits one's personal needs.

[Whose Responsibility Is It?](#)

Who pays for the technology brought to school?

These devices will be purchased by and remain the property of the family.

Who is responsible for any repairs or updating to personal computing devices?

Students and/or their families are responsible for their personal computing devices at all times.

Northcross Intermediate can arrange technical support for repair, maintenance or help to update personal computing devices – costs per service will be outlined when logging a repair job.

Who is responsible for damage, loss, or theft of devices your child brings to school?

Families must stress the responsibilities their children have when bringing their own computing devices to school. Any devices students bring to school are their sole responsibility. Northcross Intermediate takes no responsibility to search for lost or stolen devices nor is there any assumption of financial responsibility by Northcross Intermediate for damaged, lost or stolen personal computing devices.

Will the family need to have Internet access at home?

It is recommended that families have some form of Internet access at home so a child is able to make full use of the online school resources including the multitude of resources available on the World Wide Web.

Does Northcross suggest any other considerations?

It would be wise to include a device on a family's contents insurance. If purchasing a new computing device for a child to use at school, we recommend purchasing an extended warranty if purchasing new.

[Miscellaneous Information](#)

How will a child's education differ if the family does not have an Internet-connected device to bring to school?

Many lessons are collaborative allowing students to work together, sharing information accessed through personal devices. When the work is individual, students may use computers and other devices located in classrooms, the library, IT Suite or using a school notebook from a POD.

No child's learning experience or academic performance will be affected because he or she does not have a personal learning device to bring to school.

Will my child need to have a signed Acceptable Use Policy on file?

Yes. In order for Northcross Intermediate to supervise student use of the computer network and the Internet, both the [Student Acceptable Use Policy](#) and the [Bring Your Own Device - Acceptable Use Policy](#) forms must be signed by all students who want to have access to educational resources. Parents/guardians are required to read and sign the agreement. Signing the document indicates that the student and parent/guardian have read and understand the expectations of the school.

When can my child use the electronic device at school?

Students may use their electronic devices in class as instructed by the teacher. In some classes it is expected that students will need to bring electronic devices every day. Students and Parents can indicate if they would be willing to do this when enrolling.

Students may use their electronic devices during classroom lessons and break periods when permitted by school personnel provided that the devices are being used in accordance with our Acceptable Use Guidelines. Northcross does have digital free days where devices are not to be used during breaktimes.

Will my child be expected to use his or her computing device both at school and at home?

Just as with traditional assignments, some assignments may need to be completed at home. If there is a computing device malfunction or an interruption of Internet connectivity at home, a student may use computers at school before or after the school day.

Will students be able to print documents from their personal computing devices?

Students will be able to access printers at school as follows: (1) printing capabilities from school computers, and/or (2) electronic delivery of documents through email or other online methods. All printing is logged and monitored through print costing software. Students have a \$5 quota at the beginning of the year which may require topping up at times.

Where will my child's work be stored?

Students will be encouraged to store their work on the school Cloud Platform (their school Google Drive account @nxschool.kiwi). In so doing, the student will have access to their work wherever they have Internet access.

[All Electronic Devices:](#)

Classroom staff have the ultimate control of when and what type of electronic devices are used in the classroom.

[Mobile phones in the classroom:](#)

Mobile Phones are not considered to be a Personal Learning Device BUT School personnel may, at times, allow students to use mobile phones in classrooms for class activities to access the internet or other capabilities. At all other times students must adhere to the school rules and guidelines governing cell phone use.

