



St Philip's College - BYOD - Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why can't students continue to use the laptops that are currently issued to senior students?

The laptops currently being used by senior students are leased, and the conditions of the lease agreement require them to be returned later this year. The cost of extending the lease or purchasing the devices is considered to significantly exceed their value.

2. Many students already own a laptop, is it possible to consider allowing them to use these for a period of time rather than purchase a new one immediately?

If a student already owns a personal laptop they can bring it to school for the IT department to inspect. If the specifications are not too far removed from those stated by the College and it is possible to operate effectively on our network without causing any problems, we would permit them to be used for an interim period.

3. Do iPads fit within the allowable machines?

No, iPads do not possess all of the required functionality.

4. As each senior student will now have a personal device will the College be moving to replace text books with downloadable e-books in 2016?

All senior students have had laptops for a number of years and e-books have been considered. No decision has been taken to introduce e-books in 2016. It is worth noting that many of the texts and workbooks used for senior subjects are not available in digital format.

5. What is the proposed change to the teaching and learning environment to allow for the introduction of laptops?

All senior students have had laptops for a number of years and these have already been incorporated into classes in a variety of ways. Different subjects, teachers and students have used laptops for many different purposes and it is hoped that BYOD will help students to use their own device with more flexibility than was possible with the College supplied laptops.

6. Can students choose to use their laptops to take notes etc?

Some users will be comfortable using their laptop for note taking while others will prefer to use pen and paper. Students have been permitted to take notes using their laptops in the past and there will be no change with the introduction of BYOD. It should be noted that some teachers will require all laptops to be closed for some activities during their classes.

7. It was mentioned in the document with examples of acceptable laptops for the BYOD program that a flexi-rent arrangement may be possible and be used as a tax deduction. Local tax agents have queried this. Can it be used for a tax deduction by a parent for an educational expense for their children?

Unfortunately when putting the list together, we were supplied with the incorrect information regarding this. It is possible to claim a portion of the laptop expense only if it is partly used by a parent for the purpose of deriving income.

8. The least expensive device listed on the document sent to parents has a battery life of four hours rather than the six suggested.

Unfortunately, the incorrect model number was listed on the sheet. It should have been the Lenovo G4045 which was on sale at the time for \$397. We are currently working with local suppliers to improve the pricing on offer and will inform parents as developments occur.