

BYOD- FAQs

What is BYOD?

BYOD stands for “Bring Your Own Device.” BYOD 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 or administrator. For the purposes of BYOD, “Device” means a privately owned wireless and/or portable electronic piece of equipment

What are the benefits?

Our students are living in a world where they have immediate access to information anytime and anywhere. Many students have personally-owned devices in their pockets 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.

How do students access the school network? Is it required that students use the school wireless network, or can they use their own 3G or 4G service?

Students will be provided with wireless access on the BYOD network after they register their devices. Most devices will detect a wireless connection when you are near one. Most of the time devices will ask to join an available network when prompted; students can simply choose “BYOD” from the list. If the device does not display a prompt to choose a wireless network, students can manually go to the settings menu of the device to choose the relevant connection from the list displayed there. The use of cellular data (e.g. GPRS, EDGE, 3G, 4G, etc) to access the Internet in school is strictly prohibited.

What rules apply to the use of these devices on the student network?

As with all technology use, personal or school-owned, students should use technology for educational purposes with the permission of the teacher or an administrator. Students using a personally-owned device must abide by the Acceptable Use Policies they will be required to sign before use. Whilst students own the device, the network they are using belongs to the school, so Internet access will be filtered.

Are there specific requirements that devices must meet to be added to the school network?

All of our systems will function on 90% of tablets sold presently so spending £600 on the latest high end product is not necessary. We have found that a lower priced/specification machines, bought with a USB keyboard are often a preferred option.

Minimum specification:

- Windows 8/10 tablet
- Android 4.2 onwards
- Apple iOS 8 onwards
- A front and/or rear facing camera of at least 2MegaPixels.

The following range of options has been tested fully compatible and useable on our network:

- Google Nexus 7" and 10"
- Tesco Hudl2 10"
- Samsung Galaxy – any model in the range
- Any Apple iPad capable of iOS8/9

What happens if a student uses the device inappropriately?

Violations of the BYOD policy, AUP or school rules involving a student's personally owned device may result in the loss of use of the device in school and/or disciplinary action. The school reserves the right to inspect a student's personal device if there is reason to believe that the student has violated policies or school rules or has engaged in other misconduct while using their personal device.

What are some examples of inappropriate use?

The student uses an electronic device without the expressed approval of his/her teacher.

The student records a video without the permission of the teacher and posts it on YouTube.

The student takes pictures during class of other students and sends them electronically to friends without teacher approval.

The teacher has given permission to use the device for a project, but the student chooses to check his or her account on a social media site instead.

The student uses an electronic device in a toilet or changing area.

The student records or videos anyone without the knowledge and permission of the individual.

Who is responsible if the device is damaged, stolen, or lost?

The Piggott School takes no responsibility for the security, safety, theft, insurance and ownership of any device used within the school premises that is not the property of the school. If a device is stolen or damaged while on school premises, it is to be reported to our pastoral staff immediately so that the incident can be logged. Students are responsible for the use of their own devices while on the school site, on school trips and whilst travelling to and from school. All devices **must** have tracking software (such as 'Find my iPhone') installed and active to assist in crime prevention. All devices **must** be passcode/ password protected and students must not reveal their passcode/ password to other students.

What if a student doesn't have his or her own personal technology device?

It is not mandatory for students to bring a device, even if they do own one. When electronic devices are used to enhance learning in the classroom, students without a personal device will be provided access to an appropriate alternative. Keep in mind that learning can be enhanced greatly for the entire class even if only a handful of students have a device!

Can a student use their own device in any class?

Students can use personal technology devices in any class to meet educational goals as long as they have the permission of the teacher.

Will The Piggott School be offering devices for discounts or sale?

We currently have no plans to do this. All pupils in Years 10 & 11 identified as receiving free school meals, as well as any looked after children, will be issued with a school owned tablet device during the Autumn term 2015. Pupils are expected to care for these devices and are reminded that they are school property. Loss of such devices will mean parents must pay a deposit for the issue of a replacement device which will likely be of a lower specification. Families who are unable to purchase a device for their child are encouraged to contact the school for assistance.

Do I need insurance?

We STRONGLY recommend devices have some form of insurance. Research shows that students statistically take much better care of a device which belongs to him or her than a school provided device, but accidents happen. Some considerations regarding insurance:

- Insurance from shops is not likely to be valid if the device is used in school – please check the fine print
- You may wish to purchase a separate insurance policy for your device. The Insurance providers Marsh or Westwon offer tablet insurance for school use. These are not recommendations and you are encouraged to research a product that is appropriate for your circumstances.

What strategies are used in the classroom in a 1:1 BYOD environment? Are students always on a device?

Learning takes place when you can be present in the moment. Some moments require a device (researching online databases) and some require complete attention to the teacher's voice. The focus of BYOD is not so much teacher or classroom specific as it is STUDENT specific. Even in a classroom which is being taught without the use of technology by the teacher is a classroom where students may choose to use their personal technology to take notes, complete assignments, or extend learning if approved by the teacher.

Is classroom management an issue? What strategies are used?

We will use the phrase "devices down" to signal when the teacher wants the students to put the devices down and listen for instructions. Actually, the teachers who already complete projects with their students and have a great sense of community in their classrooms often have a seamless transition into BYOD because the strategies are the same, and the devices just give them more tools to complete the work.