



# Otumoetai Intermediate School

## Why BYOD?



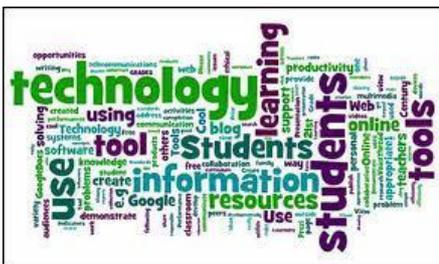
Otumoetai Intermediate School staff are excited about the opportunities that a **Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)** approach can offer our students. We recognise that the world is changing and that opportunities for different learning methods have been created through the rapid development in ICT worldwide.

Our school mission statement, which is the same as the vision of the New Zealand Curriculum, is to foster young people who will be “confident, connected, actively involved and lifelong learners”.

*“We are aiming high for young New Zealanders to be the most digitally literate in the world so they can have every opportunity to be more innovative and better compete in a modern economy. Adopting the best approach to 21st century learning will require change across the education sector. It is critical that we recognise how much of this change is being driven by students themselves, and how eager they are to learn online through new applications, tools and content.”*

*Associate Minister of Education, Nikki Kaye*

In the 21st century, eLearning is becoming fundamental to enabling this vision.



Curriculum subjects are increasingly relying on a wide variety of online learning tools. However no matter how many computers we place in classrooms, there are still restrictions on staff and students from making full use of these learning tools.

**This is why we introduced BYOD in 2014.**

We wish to create a more accessible, diverse, and dynamic learning environment for Otumoetai Intermediate School students, one that reflects the world we live in.

There are many advantages for students bringing their own ICT devices to support their educational needs. A student-owned internet capable device can be an important part of a student’s educational toolkit, providing them with instant access to unlimited resources and enabling them to support, extend, communicate and share their learning in a way that will prepare them for the future.

Some advantages of **BYOD** include:

- Anytime, anywhere access to class resources, support and extension activities through Google Apps for Education (this website is run through Google Sites).
- The ability to develop digital folders and work for their classes (that can't be lost, are always accessible and never need replacing) through cloud computing.
- Being able to develop a portfolio of student learning using cloud applications.
- An increased ability to communicate and interact with teachers, parents and peers electronically to support their learning.
- Anytime, anywhere access to unlimited resources and information on the internet.
- The ability to draft, redraft and publish their work at the click of a button.
- Allowing students to become active partners in their learning.
- Enabling students to enter and explore new learning environments, overcoming barriers of distance and time, facilitate shared learning by enabling students to join or create communities of learners that extend well beyond the classroom.
- The creation of supportive differentiated learning environments by offering resources that take account of individual, cultural, or developmental differences.
- Enhancing opportunities to learn by offering students virtual experiences and tools that save them time and allowing them to take their learning further.

## WHAT WILL MY CHILD NEED?



### **Not all students are in identical situations for BYOD.**

Otumoetai Intermediate School recommends **iPads or iPad minis** to students who wish to bring their own device to school but this is not mandatory and students are able to bring any type of device that can assist them with their learning and meet our technical requirements.

Strong evidence from other schools internationally suggests there are extremely good reasons for specifying a device for students to bring.

1. Students will universally have a high quality digital learning experience.
2. Teachers will be able to accurately anticipate what students will or won't be able to do with their device.
3. The school computer network can be optimally configured - rather than run with loose configurations that are appropriate for any device.

## Technical Requirements

### Wireless Adapter

Firstly, all students will need to connect to our network wirelessly. Wireless technology inside laptops, netbooks, tablets and smartphones has progressed considerably and modern devices are now using 'n' protocol technology. Although this is a little known fact, just one device on a school network using the older 'b' or 'g' technologies will slow 'everyones' wireless experience - hundreds of other users.

Of course, this is not acceptable and for this reason schools are demanding that all BYOD devices are 'n' capable or possibly even use the new 'ac' protocol. Our system will be able to accommodate the g technology and upwards but not the older b.

Students will need to run Meraki Mobile Device Management software on their BYOD (including student laptops) devices to be able to connect to our wireless network.

Meraki MDM will be deployed as part of the wireless sign up process.

Meraki MDM will enable our support team to identify any devices that do not comply with our school student digital devices policies, such as Windows laptops not running Anti-Virus, any device running illegal or BitTorrent software. The software will also enable us to do a better job in providing technical support for BYOD.

Note: The Meraki Device Management software has a built in wireless IP location tracking service. For those with privacy concerns, it may be possible to disable this service. However, the service can potentially be used to find, erase or even lock a device that has been stolen or misplaced. Our technical support will only utilise this feature, when directly requested by the owners of the device.

All Devices need to be named in a way that easily identifies the owner of the device across the network.

**Battery Life** It will not be possible for the school to provide charging facilities for hundreds of students - a battery that lasts for 7 hours of sustained use is highly useful.

### What Operating System will be Required?

The front-runners are clearly Windows, Apple and Android. Although any of these operating systems will work on our school network, students with Apple iPads will have a much more enjoyable experience when it comes to printing their work on our photocopiers. Windows is another leading operating system and there is lots of 'legacy' (historic) software written for Windows devices. Windows netbooks/tablets/laptops all have USB ports which are useful for connectivity to other devices.



## What could a student's BYOD day look like?

### Charging

A student will need to start the normal BYOD day the night before - each student will need to take responsibility for having put their device to charge overnight so that it has a full charge for the next day. If a student runs out of battery during the day, it is likely there will be no opportunity to charge during a lesson. In such cases, the student will need to be prepared to use pen and paper until the device is charged again.

### Security

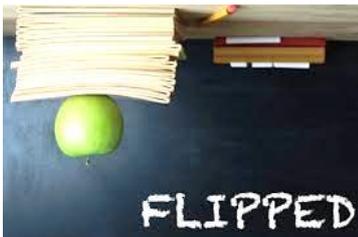
Each student will be responsible for keeping his/her BYOD device safe from damage and safe from theft. The school will not be able to repair the device so it will be much easier for the student to look after it than damage it and have it repaired. Insurance will be the family's responsibility.

In the cases where students are not able to keep their device with them (such as Physical Education classes), security arrangements will be available to keep all devices safe from theft / weather / etc.

### Backing Up

Backing up data is a key skill for anyone who uses computing devices. We will teach students the different options available for backing up work to protect against instances such as damaged or stolen devices. Each student will be provided with a Google account - this will allow them to keep all their work backed up 'in the cloud' which is probably the safest form of data backup for schools.

### The Flipped Classroom



One of the styles of learning that **BYOD** makes possible is the 'flipped classroom'. Instead of the student learning something in class and following up for homework, the flipped classroom operates in the reverse - the teacher will ask students to prepare for the next day by using their BYOD device to maybe do some reading or possibly complete a 'prior learning' exercise. The flipped classroom will allow the teacher to use the lesson to *build upon* student learning, rather than *begin* student learning.

**NB: BYOD** is an option, not a requirement, for enrolment at Otumoetai Intermediate School but many students and their families may choose to be part of this.