



BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD) INFORMATION 2024

Students in Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4) and Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6) participate in the BYOD Program at Valentine Public School. **The program usually begins each new school year with a technology boot camp. Please do not try to connect a school account at home.**

Our only recommended device is the **Chromebook**, which promotes consistency across the school and potentially into the Warners Bay High School BYOD Program.

The majority of work our students do is through their Google Education account. This is a free account all students enrolled in public schools have, allowing them to access to *G Suite* for Education (containing Google Docs, Sheets, Forms, Slides and many more applications).

CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks run Google's Chrome OS and are primarily used when connected to the internet. They have a start-up time of about seven seconds, are relatively inexpensive and have an exceptional battery life. They are easy to troubleshoot for teachers and are very durable.

When all students have a Chromebook, lessons are more efficient.

A Chromebook will come with either 2GB or 4GB of RAM - although more expensive, more RAM will basically mean the computer will handle multi-tasking easier. This isn't essential for our students at school but may be a requirement for home account use.

Screen sizes can be different, and some devices are touch screen. Models that offer this will be more expensive but perform in the same manner as cheaper models.

Several computer brands produce Chromebooks e.g. Acer, Lenovo, Asus, HP, Samsung, and Dell, all of which generally perform in the same manner. Brand choice comes down to personal preference. **We do require devices have cameras and microphones.**

Prices range from about \$297 to \$600 for a Chromebook. Beware of overzealous salespeople who will try to sell you something more expensive that is unnecessary and does not suit school needs.

Other Alternatives

NB: iPads are not part of our BYOD program

We are unable to guarantee comparable use of other devices in the classroom and cannot provide technical support for them. They are generally more expensive than Chromebooks and are surplus to the requirements we have at school. In addition to this, devices that have 3rd party virus protection have proven to be problematic with our school network and are extremely difficult to troubleshoot quickly. This means students are often unable to use their devices for extended periods (days).

If you have any questions or queries, please contact Dana Fischer –

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