

Frequently Asked Questions



What is BYOD?

BYOD stands for Bring Your Own Device. This means that the device is owned by the student/family and goes home with them at the end of the day and you get a choice of what the device may be. BYOD allows for anytime, anywhere learning. Many of the students in our school community already own devices and a number of our contributing schools already have this option in place.

What type of device may my child bring to school?

We are asking that the students at CHS use a device that is consistent with our recommended specifications. The specifications are on our BYOD Brochure. Harvey Norman will be our preferred supplier and have a number of packages available at different prices. Please see their flyer for deals, or discuss these with the Education supply staff at Harvey Norman directly.

Why can't my child use a smartphone as a device?

While smartphones are a great communication device and are often used for quick internet searches and photos, the size of the screen makes them unsuitable as a serious tool for learning and the ability to complete lengthy documents is limited.

If we do not provide a device, will my child be still able to enrol at Cashmere High School?

Yes, your child will not be turned away if they can't afford a device. Ideally we want families to provide a device for their child which they can be responsible for. We will have a small number of laptops available at school that can be hired on a daily, weekly and termly basis for a nominal fee. Please discuss this with your child's Head of School at the start of 2016.

How will my child charge their computer?

We expect students to take responsibility for the charging of devices overnight, and this is a good habit for them to get into. If a device is fully charged overnight then it would be unlikely to need charging throughout the day. There are a small number of charging stations available in our library and in some classrooms.

How will my child be using the computer in the classroom?

We have been introducing the concept of BYOD over the last 3 years and the number of teachers who have had a chance to teach in this environment has increased. Technology is a tool in the day-to-day learning of our students. Different teachers will be using it in different ways, and we are strongly encouraging our staff to use a combination of face-to-face and online teaching and learning approaches in their programmes. Therefore devices will be used in a way that supports the best possible approach for the particular subject that they take. Be aware that courses vary and although devices will be used in subjects, they will not be used all day, every day, as certain topics will lend themselves to device usage more than others.



How will my child keep their device safe? Who is responsible for security and damage?

We have been teaching with digital devices at school over the last 3 years and we have had no instances of theft of these devices while at school. We have had a small number of students who have had their screens damaged so having a strong case to store the device in is a must. Taking care of their own and others possessions is part of the NZ curriculum with regards to 'Managing Self'. There are a number of school lockers available for students to store their devices. Devices are kept in a locked space during Health and Physical Education classes if they are not being used. We will be encouraging students to store their devices in their lockers or leave them in the main office while they are playing sport on a Wednesday afternoon. The school will not be held responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices.

How does the school ensure my child's safety when using the internet at school?

When students are connected to the school's network via the BYOD connection there is a filtering system in place. If students connect using their 3G or 4G connection this then bypasses the schools filtering system. All Year 9 students are required to participate in a Digital Citizenship program run at school during Terms 1 and 2. This is run by our Librarian, Saskia Hill over a number of weeks, where they are required to complete a course on digital citizenship. Every student is required to sign a Responsible use of ICT agreement before starting at CHS. No student is able to complete enrolment unless the agreement is signed and returned.

Will I need to have internet access at home?

No, it is helpful if you do have access to the internet, as this enables your child to make full use of school resources from home via our school Moodle and Gmail accounts. If a student needs to make use of free Wi-Fi out in the community, please be aware that these connections may not provide the necessary filters we have on our school network.

Will students be able to record teachers or classmates? (Audio or video)

Only with their permission. Any recording or photo that is on a device that does not have permission to be there will need to be removed. We have a responsible use agreement that all students sign, and the school has procedures in place if a device is being misused in anyway.

Can students use another student's device?

Because the devices are student/personally owned, we prefer that each device is operated by the owner.

Have teachers been trained to work in a BYOD environment?

Our teachers have been upskilling themselves to work in a BYOD environment over the last couple of years. Different software and applications are investigated and used by staff in order to provide the most effective teaching and learning environment for our students. In our senior school many of our NCEA assignments have a research/inquiry component associated with them and require digital access. The school can no longer provide sufficient access to school owned devices to meet the high demand for access.



As a parent, am I required to add additional software to my child's technology tool?

Free anti-viral software is required for devices that are connected to the internet. If the student has a laptop, then they are able to download **free**, the Microsoft 365 Advantage software. They will need to be enrolled in the school and use their school email address to take advantage of this package. The software will also be available on up to 10 devices that they family may own.

Who will be responsible for troubleshooting and fixing students' devices?

The type of device that will be bought to CHS will vary immensely. We have a great technology team but they will not be required to provide technical assistance other than helping students connect to the wireless at school. Students who bring iPads in the junior school will have their iPad connected to our school App connection system, which allows us to push out apps, free of charge to use for educational purposes.

Will I still need to purchase stationery to use in class?

A stationery list will be available via our website. Having a digital device does not make CHS a paperless school. Many aspects of learning are still done via pen and paper, experimentation or through the manipulation of things in traditional ways. When the best way to engage students in their learning is via technology, then this will be the preferred method of delivery. Textbooks may still be used in some subjects, where others will make use of the online texts now available. The school provides a printing account for students to be able to print their work, which the school will load with \$5 at the start of the year. As teachers increase their use of digital work, many of the tools used can be shared online and reduce the necessity to print out tasks to be handed in.

Will the wifi connection at the school be able to handle a large number of devices at a time? Is there a way to monitor student use of the internet?

This year there has been an audit completed with regards to the school's Wifi access. Those areas where there have been issues with access throughout the school have been identified and we have purchased a number of new APs which we will be installing into classrooms where the access is not good to address current issues. All students sign onto our Wifi via 'Cashmere BYOD', this logs the students onto our network, enabling our Tech team to monitor websites searched and block access to internet sites and apps via our filtering system.

Is there going to be training for parents – internet safety, digital citizenship, Parent Portal access to check results and attendance, use of the school app?

Yes, our community already has access to the parent portal, and the Cashmere High School app is now available to be downloaded from the app store. Our Cashmere Parents group have run a number of successful evenings around internet safety and we will keep parents informed with regards to upcoming events. Further readings around the use and benefits of ICT in the classroom can be accessed from <http://elearning.tki.org.nz/Research-and-readings>.