

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Lyneham Primary School is launching a Bring Your Own Chromebook (BYOC) initiative at the beginning of the 2023 school year. Students in years 4-6 will be able to bring Chromebooks to use for educational purposes. **In 2023 the school will loan a device to students in year 5 and 6.** The focus of the BYOC program at Lyneham Primary School is to provide tools and resources to the 21st Century Learner. Excellence in education requires that technology is seamlessly integrated throughout the educational program. ICT is used to create a collaborative learning environment to enhance student's problem-solving skills. A BYOC program will be used for engagement, access, awareness and driving change through the inquiry learning process. Having ongoing access to technology provides support and enhances student learning in an ever-changing, global community. It is flexible, personalised and develops 21st century competencies by being embedded into the core principles and practices of teaching at Lyneham Primary School.

### Educational Activities

Student devices will be used to access resources, complete assignments, and for personal organisation. Educational activities may include researching information, producing documents, analysing data, participating in surveys, producing videos, reading e-books, creating blogs, taking notes, or scheduling events. The use of the device is at the sole discretion of the teacher.

### Digital Citizenship

A focus of this initiative is digital citizenship, which is the responsible use of technology. Your child will learn digital skills, ethics, etiquette, and online safety. These are important aspects of participating in today's world.

### Responsibility

Students are solely responsible for their device. They must bring it fully charged to school.

### Technical Support

Resources will be provided to help students connect their device to the school network. Your child must be familiar with how to use their device. Teachers will incorporate the use of your child's device into learning. However, they will not provide technical support.

We look forward to the educational opportunities that BYOC will bring. To learn more about the program please take a moment to review the following documents:

- Read through the [Information Booklet](#) with your child.
- Refer to the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) sheet.

We will be having a Q&A session in week 8 to answer any questions or concerns you have in relation to the BYOC program next year. The session will be held on;

**Monday 21st November at 5:00pm via Microsoft Teams (link will be shared prior to the meeting via Seesaw)**

Warm regards,  
Elise Sutherland (ICT Coordinator)

# Information Booklet

## Bring your own Chromebook

LYNEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

## **Lyneham Primary School Vision**

Lyneham Primary School is to create a collaborative community that inspires lifelong learning, integrity, and wellbeing. Our community believes the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is fundamental in assisting teaching and learning in all areas of the school curriculum. We believe our students should have the tools they need to learn anywhere, with access to everything they need when they need it.

## **What is BYOD or BYOC?**

“Bring your own device (BYOD) or Bring your own Chromebook (BYOC) refers to technology models where students bring a personally owned device to school for the purpose of learning. A personally owned device is any technology device brought into the school and owned by a student (or the student’s family), staff or guests” (Alberta Education, 2012).

At Lyneham Primary School, we are increasing the access students have to contemporary technologies to support their learning. BYOC (Bring your Own Chromebook) is a program that we aim to deliver at Lyneham beginning in January 2023. The program will allow students to bring a device from home to support learning from years four to six.

Students bring their device to school and have access to a broad range of learning content stored on the cloud, both in and out of the classroom, enabling “any time, any place” learning. BYOC is about bringing the classroom to the student and not limiting them to a single path of learning and a single pace of working. Students are also able to interact with an enormous suite of ICT based learning tools and knowledge that is simply not possible in the traditional classroom. Learning can become more student centred.

## **Why BYOC?**

BYOC (Bring your Own Chromebook) will allow students to access real-world learning platforms that are easy to use and familiar to them, so they can learn, create, communicate and collaborate from anywhere. BYOC provides opportunities for more personalised, student-centred learning and makes differential learning easier. Engaged learners are better learners. Bringing your own Chromebook puts students in a position of power and responsibility over their learning. BYOC bridges the gap between in school and at home learning. 21st century skills are cited by many authors as a justification for BYOC. Through using ICT integrated in the classroom students enhance their learning experiences, providing them with opportunities to collaborate and to discover and in doing so produce responsible, literate and knowledgeable digital citizens.

## **Advantages**

- Allows students to work on a device that is familiar to them and customised to their preferences.
- Enables the opportunity for schools to leverage students’ attachment to their own devices to deepen learning and to make learning more personalised and student-centred.
- Can increase the number of devices available for teaching and learning.
- Enables the school to direct ICT funding to address equity issues and improving infrastructure (e.g. wireless).
- Enables collaborative learning through cloud-based software at any time (school and home)

## **Digital Technologies Curriculum**

*The study of technology covers two areas:*

- Design and Technologies, in which students use design thinking and technologies to generate and produce designed solutions for authentic needs and opportunities
- Digital Technologies, in which students use computational thinking and information systems to define, design and implement digital solutions. (Australian Curriculum, Technology)

*Learning within technologies is structured so that students have opportunities to:*

- investigate, design, plan, manage, create and evaluate solutions
- work collaboratively and individually
- work with a variety of materials, systems, data and tools
- create and innovate

- make ethical and informed decisions about the role, impact, and use of technologies

The teaching of Information and Communication Technology skills is integrated across learning areas with an emphasis on using it to extend children's thinking and creativity. We aim to:

- explicitly teach students how to use a range of information and communication technologies (ICT) to support their thinking, learning and communication
- develop confidence and a sense of enjoyment in using ICT for different purposes
- develop an appreciation of the responsible, legal and ethical use of information resulting in responsible digital citizens
- use ICT to support inquiry as students engage in building understandings that contribute to their success as life-long learners in the digital age

### **Cybersafety**

Cybersmart is a national cybersafety and cybersecurity education program managed by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA), as part of the Australian Government's commitment to cybersafety. The program is specifically designed to meet the needs of its target audiences of children, young people, parents, teachers, and library staff. More information and help guides can be found on the ACT Education and Training Directorate website.

### **Acceptable use of ICT**

When a child is enrolled in an ACT public school a parent/ carer must complete the online enrolment/transfer form. Part of that form is the Communities Online: Acceptable Use of ICT Parents and Students. This outlines acceptable use of ICT, permissions for Internet and Email, and provides you with access to Google Apps and Office 365. Students and parents are advised to read the Lyneham Primary School ICT Code of Practice for Students at the bottom of this document.

### **Security and Insurance**

Students bring their devices onto the school site at their own risk. If you are concerned the device is going to be broken, lost or stolen, you may wish to consider specific accidental loss and breakage insurance for the device. Please contact your insurance company to arrange policy cover for the device at school. We would suggest that you record the serial number of your device and add your name or easily identifiable mark. Students are to place their devices in lockers when not in use and the lockers will be locked with a padlock for security.

### **Daily Expectations**

We expect all personal devices to arrive at school fully charged. In some instances, we will be able provide spare cables or adapters to allow students to charge their device at school, but this is on a case-by-case basis and may not always be available. Students may be asked to move or unplug their device if they are creating a WHS issue. Students may only charge where there are accessible power points and with permission from the teacher.

### **Supplementing Devices**

Equity Hire Scheme

- We encourage families to review what devices they have at home prior to purchasing a new device. Please see the specifications above for more information on the type of device we recommend.
- If you are having difficulty funding the purchase of a suitable device for your child, please contact the principal to discuss further.

Loan System

- Lyneham Primary School provides a loan system for students to borrow a Chromebook in the event they have forgotten their device. If students have forgotten their Chromebook, they are to tell their teacher first thing in the morning and can borrow one from the library. The loan service will be available to students in years 4-6, in consultation with the principal.
- The purpose of this system is to provide an avenue for students to borrow a Chromebook for the day if they have forgotten their device. Devices cannot be reserved and will be provided on a first served basis. Students are expected to return the device in good working order at the end of the day.

## **2023 Chromebook Program – Frequently Asked Questions**

Please read the following information regarding the Chromebook program:

### **What is a Chromebook?**

A Chromebook is a small portable personal computer. It uses Google Chrome as its operating system and is most useful when connected to the internet. At school the Chromebook will only be used for enhancing student learning.

### **How will this program operate?**

The program is a home to school program which aims to prepare students for the digital world in which they live. The program will put technology at the fingertips of our students allowing them to utilise one device at both home and school. Parents will be able to see what children are working on at school and can build on this where they feel it is appropriate. Teachers, through the Google Suite for Education (GSfE) will be able to manage the individual needs of children and effectively monitor their progress.

### **Why doesn't the school just provide a class set of Chromebooks which the children share?**

The program is aiming to mimic "real-use" of ICT which involves having a personal device per child. This facilitates taking the device home, away on holidays, on excursions, and having access to the information they need when they need it. A system based on shared devices allows for limited access and would not allow devices to travel home.

### **Does the school have sufficient Wi-Fi access?**

Yes. The school has a strong Wi-Fi network across all areas of the school.

### **What if my child doesn't have a Chromebook? Will they be disadvantaged? Do they have to have one?**

No child will be disadvantaged. All children will continue to access the same level of ICT they currently have. Students who do not have a device of their own will be provided with a Chromebook to use while they are at school.

### **Can my child bring an alternative device to school instead of a Chromebook?**

No. We have chosen this device due to its long battery life, high level of processing power and durable assembly. We have done considerable research and believe that currently this is the ideal device for use at Lyneham Primary School.

### **Won't the children just be staring at a screen all day?**

No. ICT is a tool that teachers and children will only use some of the time; it is not suitable for every aspect of learning. Face to face interaction and physical activity will remain a high priority at school. We believe a balance can be achieved.

### **What evidence is there that ICT improves student outcomes?**

Many studies have been carried out in recent times and the evidence shows that when used appropriately ICT has the ability to positively impact on student achievements. We believe the use of ICT is another tool to be utilised by teachers in order to meet the needs of a greater range of learning styles. Many children enjoy using computers and it is this motivation that facilitates learning through focus.

### **What are the benefits?**

- Wider access to resources
- More ability to differentiate
- Fast retrieval of information
- Access to real time cooperative learning and schools across the world
- Ability to link with like-minded students
- Ability to share learning at home in a timely manner
- Preparation for real-life situations
- Student engagement and motivation

### **What happens if my child accidentally damages their Chromebook at school? At home?**

Any defects that occur during the normal use of this device will be covered by the warranty. Whilst devices are being repaired, a loaned Chromebook will be issued to the child. Parents can confirm with their insurance company that devices will be covered for theft or damage at home.

*\*Damage due to negligence or malicious behaviour is not covered by the manufacturer's warranty and the parents will be expected to cover the cost of the repair or replacement.*

**How will my child's Chromebook be stored safely while at school?**

When not in use, Chromebooks will be stored in secured lockers or trolleys within the school.

**Should my child take their Chromebook home each night?**

Yes. The Chromebook can be used at home by students and it is expected that the children will charge their Chromebook overnight ready for use the next day at school. We discourage charging at school as power cords/chargers can be a hazard in the classroom and will add extra weight to school bags.

**Do students have unrestricted access to the internet?**

No. The Chromebooks will connect to the internet via the Education Directorate's filtered network. The school's *Acceptable use of IT Policy* will continue to be enforced.

**What software does it come with?**

The Chromebook operates in the Google Chrome environment. No software is required. Google has their own version of Word, Excel and PowerPoint and all apps are automatically updated every time you log on.

**Where can I get some advice about safe and responsible use of social media?**

Lynham Primary School wants all students to be safe and be respectful members of the online community and we ask parents to support our efforts in promoting responsible online behaviour. We will be providing cyber safety workshops for children K-6 and a session will be offered to parents in early 2023.

**Will classroom discussions become a thing of the past?**

No.

**Will ergonomics be taken into consideration?**

Yes.