

# Newcastle High School BYOD

Newcastle High School recognises the need to prepare our students for a rapidly-changing world, where technology plays a critical role in personal, social and professional lives. Staff at Newcastle High School have taken great strides to integrate device use into all aspects of teaching, including the implementation of a brand new learning management platform, Canvas. BYOD is an important step in ensuring all NHS students are working with 21<sup>st</sup> century learning capabilities.



Parents can now access the Newcastle High School JB Hi-Fi Education parent portal where a selection of *Apple* and *HP* devices may be purchased. These laptops are specifically chosen for the classroom and have a variety of pricing options available. Simply go to <https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod/> with our school code **NewcastleHS2019** and make your choice.

## Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Do I have to purchase through the JB Hi-Fi portal?**  
No. However, any servicing or repairs must be organised individually with the manufacturer by you.
- 2. What if the device is broken at or lost school?**  
By purchasing through the JB HiFi portal, servicing due to laptop fault can be submitted online by parents and a technician will repair the device. An additional warranty option is also available, to cover repairs due to damage. Support in this matter may be found at <https://www.jbeducation.com.au/support/> where parents can also submit warranty or servicing claims.
- 3. What specifications does the laptop require?**  
All laptops on the JB Hi-Fi portal meet our specifications, but any Windows, Chromebook or Apple Devices with dual band 5GHz wireless, a 64GB solid state drive and 9.7inch screen are sufficient. A carry case is also required.
- 4. What software will be needed?**  
All devices will come with internet browsing software and students will be encouraged to use cloud based platform Microsoft Office 365 already available through their DET portal account. Students may also download and install the entire Office 2016 suite (Word, PowerPoint, and Excel) for free from their DET portal page, or by logging in to their Office 365 account at <https://www.office.com/>
- 5. What software will teachers be using at school for class work?**  
Depending on the course, a variety of software will be used in the classroom ranging from word processing and spreadsheet calculations to game development and film editing. All NHS students now have access to Canvas - our new learning management system at <https://nhs.instructure.com/> where staff can issue and receive student work of all media types. Students can access Canvas using their Office 365 student login.
- 6. Do I have to buy a new device each year?**  
No. The lifecycle of a device that is cared for should last approximately four years.
- 7. Where can I find more information?**  
Please visit our website at <https://newcastle-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/byod-at-nhs.html> to find more details about BYOD at Newcastle High School.



## ***What is BYOD?***

Bring Your Own Device, or BYOD, is a technological trend in education and in the corporate world.

BYOD recognises that technology and choices about technology are very much personal.

BYOD acknowledges technology in education means more than meeting specific curriculum requirements.

BYOD is designed to give you, as students and families, freedom to make technology choices that suit you and all your circumstances.

## ***How does it work?***

In 2019, students at Newcastle High School are encouraged to bring their own computing device to school every day.

We are making **recommendations** as to the model of device you may choose to bring.

Or, if you have a strong technical background, there may be something of your own choosing that meets our **Device Specification** that you choose to bring.



There is also some software that you have must on the device.

In most cases there are free options for software.



A member of the school staff, the **BYOD Technical Support Officer**, is available to answer questions and to give assistance.

However, the school does not manage, support, own or warranty the device - it's your device.

## ***Why do you operate a BYOD program?***

The BYOD program was first implemented to replace the Digital Education Revolution (DER) program which ended in 2013.

Our teaching staff expressed their desire to expand the program across the school. This allows each subject to move from physical to electronic texts over time, to deliver lessons with a unified teaching methodology across all year groups and to bring the rich learning experiences to all schools. All faculties are committed to developing increased integration with the BYOD program over the coming years.

## ***What type of device can we bring?***

A range of devices in a range of price categories meet the **Device Specification**.

You should carefully consider all your options for purchase and lease/rent-to-buy. Consider also that a good quality device could comfortably last four years.

Additionally, it's possible you already own or use a device which meets the Device Specification, in which case just bring that.

## ***Why do you operate a portal with JB Hi-Fi?***

Some of the **Device Specification** requirements are quite particular. By choosing a device from our parent portal at JB Hi-Fi, you are ensured the right type of device has been chosen. Just visit [JB BYOD](#) and enter the school code **NewcaslteHS2019**, and you won't have to worry about whether the laptop ticks all the requirements.

There are only a handful of devices available through the portal by design.

Allowing a smaller selection of choices between the low, medium and high price points makes it easier for parents, students and teachers who will all be using the same group of devices. This enables staff to assist students more effectively in the classroom.



## ***I'm concerned about the costs***

The purchase of a device is a major decision and a significant expense. A good quality device may last from Year 9 to Year 12 and viewed over four years the expense is considerably less. Newcastle High School has taken strides to integrate device use into many aspects of teaching and learning. Your investment allows the school to maximise learning outcomes for all students.

We are committed to our obligations as a public education institution to deliver the same learning outcomes to all our students no matter their families' financial means.

## ***I'm concerned about device security***

The school does not own the device, support the device or warranty the device. Experience from the previous Commonwealth-funded Digital Education Revolution scheme indicates that students who took good care of their device and considered themselves the device's owner rarely had device security issues.

If you are concerned the device is going to be broken, lost or stolen, you may wish to consider specific accidental damage insurance for the device. You can specifically list the item on your home contents insurance, or you can purchase an Accidental Damage Protection plan for your device. Accidental Damage Protection is available as an option for all our recommended devices.

You may also consider using a device locator service. These services include the "Find my iPad" service built in to Apple iOS devices, "Prey" for Windows or "LoJack for Laptops".

Internet access on the device will be filtered at school and students will be prohibited from connecting to other networks while at school.

# Newcastle High School “Bring Your Own Device”

## Program Device Specification

### Hardware Specification Requirements

<b>Form Factor</b>	Laptop, tablet or convertible device <sup>1,2</sup>  A tablet device must have a physical keyboard available with separate keys for A – Z and 0 – 9. A separate Bluetooth device is sufficient to meet this requirement.  <b>Note 1:</b> The Device must also have a camera and microphone. A stylus may be appropriate for touch screen devices. <b>Note 2:</b> NLHS has made the decision that mobile phones/ smartphones will not be part of the BYOD program.
<b>Physical Dimensions</b>	Minimum Screen Size: 9.7”
<b>Operating System</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Microsoft Windows</li><li>• Apple MacOS</li><li>• ChromeOS</li></ul> <b>Note:</b> Windows and Office 365 is available as a free download to students through the DET portal. Chromebooks and MacOS come with built in software.
<b>Processor</b>	Dual core processor or better.
<b>Memory</b>	Minimum Ram: Laptops 4GB / Tablets 1GB
<b>Wireless Compatibility</b>	Wireless connectivity required. Devices that connect via the 802.11n wifi standard, on the dual band both 5 Ghz 4 Ghz frequency devices will connect.
<b>Battery Life</b>	Advertised battery life of 5 hours or more.
<b>Storage</b>	Minimum 64GB storage on device. <sup>6</sup>  <b>Note 6:</b> Students are recommended to make use of a storage device such as the Office 365 OneDrive or Google Drive to save work. These accounts are done through the student’s DET login and allow unlimited storage.
<b>Protective casing</b>	Students are required to store their device in a suitable protective case when not in use. <sup>7</sup>  <b>Note 7:</b> A scratch/impact/liquid-splash resistant case is recommended. A screen protector may also be advisable for touch screen devices
<b>Additional Recommendations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• USB 2.0 or USB 3.0 port (Highly desirable)</li><li>• Accidental loss and breakage insurance</li></ul>

## Software Requirements

In addition to the hardware requirements outlined above, the device must also have access to the following software.

Please note that a **free student download exists** for most of the software solutions below through your student's DET portal login.

<b>Software</b>	<b>One of the following:</b>
<b>Learning Management</b>	Canvas
<b>Web Browser</b>	Microsoft Internet Explorer, Apple Safari, Mozilla Firefox and/or Google Chrome
<b>Note Taking/ Word Processor</b>	Microsoft Office 365, Microsoft OneNote, Apple Pages, Google Docs
<b>Spreadsheet Software</b>	Microsoft Excel, Apple Numbers, Google Spreadsheet
<b>Presentation Software</b>	Microsoft PowerPoint, Apple Keynote, Google Slides
<b>Pdf Document Viewing Software</b>	Adobe Acrobat Reader or Equivalent Software
<b>Office 365 and Google Apps</b>	Either through the browser or via a dedicated application
<b>Additional Recommendations</b>	Adobe CC suite (small fee download from student's DET portal account)  <b>Note:</b> Adobe flash is not compatible with Apple IOS devices.