



2 November 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the last few years, we have been working towards a 'Bring Your Own Device' (BYOD) program for our Secondary school students. One important component has involved the ongoing improvement of our wireless network. Our primary reason for the introduction of a BYOD program is to further enrich our students' learning experiences as 21st-century learners. As a Christian school, it is imperative that we train our students to be excellent digital citizens by helping them to promote ownership of their learning and to become good stewards of resources.

The 2019 year marks an important milestone for our Secondary school as we implement a compulsory BYOD program. Many of the Senior students already use BYOD to a large extent. We are now planning to extend this program across our entire Secondary school. To achieve this outcome, we will require every student to bring their own wireless laptop/tablet in order to connect to the school's student wifi network.

These devices will enhance the opportunities for all of our Secondary students to gain advantages in meeting key educational outcomes. Some of these advantages are:

- Textbooks can be accessed digitally
- Students' research information can be easily stored
- Students can access homework, worksheets, lessons, notes etc. online via SEQTA Learn
- Parents can access students' learning documents/programs via SEQTA Engage.

Students in Years 10 - 12 will need to acquire a device that meets the requirements for their subjects as outlined in the letters that were sent home last term. Parents/carers and students (Years 7 - 9) will be able to access a copy of the BYOD policy during the information sessions, which will include the minimum device specifications. This information will also be posted on the school website.

Online portals (or shops) are currently being set up exclusively for NCS with JB Hi-Fi and Learning with Technologies. Harvey Norman (Nowra) is also currently compiling some package deals exclusively for our school. For your convenience, we have pre-selected devices and negotiated prices that will allow you to choose from a wide range of computers. However, there is no compulsion to purchase your device from this range of options. You may source a device from other stores or your child may already have one that meets the minimum specifications as set out in the BYOD Policy.

Please note that Nowra Christian School receives no financial incentives or benefit from our partnership with these companies. The negotiated pricing has been arranged solely for the purpose of providing potential financial benefits for members of our school community.

We value the partnership that exists between home and school. We believe that parents play a vital role in the growth and development of their children. To this end, we will be holding parent information sessions about the BYOD program as outlined below:

- Week 5 Monday, 12 November 7 – 8 pm
- Week 6 Tuesday, 20 November 7 – 8 pm
- Week 7 Thursday, 29 November 3.30 – 4.30pm

(Note: Each of these sessions will provide identical information. We are simply providing a range of alternatives to assist everyone to locate a suitable date/time.)

For parents with students commencing in Year 7, 2019, a BYOD session will be included in the Year 7 Parent Information Evening being held on Thursday, 29 November between 7 - 8pm (This specific session is designed for Year 7, 2019 parents only.)

We highly recommend that at least one parent/carer attends one of these sessions. For catering purposes, [please use this form](#) to indicate which session you will be attending by Friday, 9 November.

We look forward to answering any questions that may arise at the parent information sessions. However, you are welcome to consult this [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document at any time, should you desire to carry out some initial research into this topic.

Kind regards,



Mrs Evelyn Meek
Head of Secondary