BUY YOUR OWN DEVICE PROGRAM

SENIOR INFORMATION EVENING 2016
Our current technology provision

- **Computer laboratories** for IT, Music, Media and VCD subjects (limited access to other subjects).
- All students have *at-school access* across the curriculum to school-owned netbooks.
Why is 1:1 access to technology important?

Bruce Dixon, The Sutton Trust

What is **really effective** is using technology to work together, to learn at home and for students to monitor and reflect upon their own learning. This requires **flexibility and habits of learning**.
Education of the future – Horizon Report

Cloud computing – we are involved in Google Drive, this could offer cloud storage and access to other school files.

Mobile Learning – we are using the XUNO Student Portal to set and monitor work and communicate with students and parents.

3D Printing – we have teachers exploring the possibilities of this technology as part of their professional learning.

The other key areas to explore include access to open content (e.g. online courses) and use of remote labs (e.g. Polycom Conferences). Some teachers are already accessing these and we expect students to do more of this in the near future.
This time last year and now

We made a decision to hold off on BYOD (Buy or Bring) program because:

- Funding for the netbook program had been withdrawn and we were unsure if it would be replaced with new funding.  
  *It wasn’t.*

- We believed that the netbooks would service some of our needs for a short period of time (2 to 3 years).
  *The netbooks have allowed us to use technology across the curriculum, at school, this year but are reaching the end of their lifespan and we do not have funding for replacements.*

- We did not receive enough feedback about the capacity of our school community to fund a user-pays system.
  *This is now our only option if we wish to continue using technology across the curriculum.*

- The department did not have an established policy for BYOD or a facility to assist schools with policies and software provision.
  *This is currently in development and will be available soon.*
What is our plan for 2017?

- We *encourage* all families to consider providing a device for their students in years 7 to 10 in 2017.
- We will *expect* that all families provide a device for their students for years 7 to 12 in 2018.
Option 1: Buy your own device (recommended)

Our recommended option is that families will purchase a device for their student or students from our preferred vendor **Learning with Technologies**. We will set up a secure portal for families to access and purchase our suggested models.

Models to be confirmed soon. A letter will be sent to families with instructions.
Option 1: Buy your own device (recommended)

The models (all PC) available to purchase from our secure website are *still to be confirmed* due to recent changes but will most likely include:

A **netbook (11.6 inch)**
Similar to those used now. Suitable for all activities across the curriculum.

A **tablet (10 inch)**
Lighter and with a touchscreen. Suitable for all activities across the curriculum but there may be issues with high-end use.

A **notebook or ultrabook (14 to 15.6 inch)**
A bigger, heavier but more powerful machine that will be suitable to students who have chosen IT, Media, VCD and Music subjects and wish to work on projects at home.
Option 1: Buy your own device (recommended)

We *strongly recommend* this option because:

- The *prices* are very competitive when all factors are taken into account.
- We know that these devices will be *compatable* with our network (internet, file server, printers).
- We can pre-load the Edustar software image to the devices, saving money and ensuring *consistency*.
- Under *warranty* we can organise for devices to be returned to LwT for repair.
- LwT also offer a bundle package of ‘Accidental Damage’ and ‘Theft’ *insurance* that we would like families to consider.
Option 1: Buy your own device (recommended)

We understand that purchasing a device will be a significant investment for your student or students. Factors that may help you to manage the cost include:

• Learning with Technologies offers an interest-free payment plan (36 months, $20 to $30 per month depending on chosen device).

• The school will remove the current $75 technology levy for students who provide their own device.

• Access to a device will provide opportunities for families to purchase e-books for many subjects. These are potentially a cheaper option (a $30 saving in many cases).

• We also encourage families to explore potential assistance offered through rebates (e.g. Save it Plus), scholarships and subsidies for other costs (e.g. Chances for Children) for families with a healthcare card.
e-Books

Our textbook provider **Campion** have provided us with a list of texts that will be available as **e-Books for 2017**. They will continue to expand their catalogue of e-Books in future years. Campion also provides an **e-Reader**, which will allow students to read and annotate their texts using their device. Over time the capacity of e-Books to include extra features (e.g. interactive activities) will increase and add value to these texts.
Option 2: Bring your own device (on a case-by-case basis)

Due to student and parent feedback we have decided to consider allowing access to devices that students already own and use on a *case-by-case basis* at the discretion of our **IT Administrator Peter Manno** and IT Technician Andrew Malycha. However, the following must be considered:

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<td><strong>Connect</strong> devices to the school network to access <em>Dingo</em> (file server) and the <em>internet</em>.</td>
<td>Install the <strong>Edustar Catalogue</strong> (which includes Microsoft Office and various other types of educational software).</td>
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<td><strong>Basic desktop support</strong> with permission note signed. Limited support to Apple devices.</td>
<td><strong>Perform hardware repairs</strong> or fix major problems. These will need to be dealt with outside of the school at your cost.</td>
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<td><strong>Guarantee printing access</strong>. Apple (e.g. MacBook's and iPads) will not have printing access.</td>
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*If you wish to have your own device connected to the school network we will ask you to take it to our IT Administrators for an evaluation to see if this is possible.*
Option 2: Bring your own device (on a case-by-case basis)

If you choose to bring your own device and gain approval to connect your device to the network you will need to install the eduSTAR software that we use at school. To do this you will need to access the eduSTAR Software Centre.

We cannot guarantee that all software will work on a device that you bring to school.
Option 3: No device

In the short-term (2016) – students will continue to make use of the netbooks available at school. However, as the netbooks reach the end of their lifespan, there may be a shortage of devices.

In the mid-term (2016) – this will depend on family support for the Buy Your Own Device program. If most (90% or more) students have their own device then we may be able to maintain enough netbooks to support those students who cannot.

In the long-term (2017 and beyond) – we predict that having a technology device will be a necessary learning tool for all students and that it will, most likely, be provided on a user pays basis. We hope that state and federal governments will support the education change they encouraged us to follow but we cannot guarantee this.

As a school we will continue to work with community organisations to access additional support for our students and their families.
Option 3: No device

*If you do not bring a device to school*

Your teachers are aware that the movement towards a *Buy Your Own Device* program will take time. This will require them to be flexible by offering some task options that will utilise technology and others that do not. If you do not have a device, and there are no school netbooks available, it may mean that you have to complete tasks without accessing technology.

Students in the *senior years (VCE and VCAL)* need to be aware that not having access to a device will put you at a disadvantage to many other students across the state.