



19th October 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Re: BYOD Program for Year 3-6 students 2024

Next year we will continue to provide the opportunity for students in Year 3, 4, 5, 6 to participate in the optional Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program. We will continue with the educational provider, Learning with Technologies (LWT), who provide devices, complete with the Department of Education and Training (DET) standard configuration including Windows 10, insurance, warranty and payment options.

The online portal for ordering Year 3-6 BYOD devices is accessible at <http://highvaleps.orderportal.com.au/> Orders placed by the 19th November will be delivered before school finishes in December. Orders placed after that date will be delivered at the start of Term 1, 2023.

Device Choice and Ordering

As has always been the case at Highvale, the BYOD program will continue to be an 'opt in' opportunity. This means it is highly recommended but not compulsory. Please note that the school does not receive funding for digital devices. Through the wonderful fundraising efforts of the Highvale Primary Community Group (HPCG), together with contributions made by parents, we are able to provide digital technologies resources including robotics and STEAM equipment such as digital printers as well as a core number of devices. These devices are distributed to each Learning Community: Prep, Year 1&2, Year 3&4, Year 5&6 and specialist programs. School purchased devices are shared amongst many students and remain at school at all times. Participation in the BYOD program means your child will have their own device, to be used at school and home.

Please note, model availability is updated regularly.

An example of a range of models and features is included below, however parents are required to check the LWT portal to check for the models available at the time of purchase.

- **Lenovo 500w Yoga Gen 3** - 11.6" Convertible touchscreen – Pentium CPU, 8GB memory, 256GB SSD, 3YR Onsite warranty.
- **Lenovo 500w Yoga Gen 4** - 12.2" Convertible touchscreen – N200 CPU, 8GB memory, 256GB SSD, 3YR Onsite warranty.
- **Lenovo L13 Yoga Gen 4** – 13.3" Convertible touchscreen – Core i5 CPU, 16GB memory, 256GB SSD (Sub option for 512GB SSD), 3YR Onsite warranty

A number of optional extras can also be purchased through the portal. A carry bag will be required as students take their device home each day for homework and charging. Whilst at school, devices are stored in locked classrooms. Devices are not taken outside during breaks unless under direct teacher supervision.

Families who purchase a new device through the portal will have access to support as per the conditions stipulated in the Warranty, and Purchase Agreements as appropriate.

Please note, that at the end of the warranty period, families have the option of continuing with their child's current device or purchasing a new device (Lenovo) with a warranty. **It is important to note though that HPS WILL NOT provide any hardware support for any devices that are out of warranty.**

Costs

We remain very cognisant of costs for families and have endeavoured to provide a range of devices and optional extras. Devices purchased through LWT will include the Microsoft Office suite, Minecraft Education Edition, Windows Defender virus protection and access to education programs.

Further Questions

We strongly encourage you to read the Digital Learning Policy which is accessible through our school website under the 'Parent Information' section.

Students will complete learning activities each year to support their understanding of acceptable use of digital technologies. The Digital Learning Safe & Acceptable Use Expectations (AUE) is available for all parents to read on our school website under the 'Parent Information' section. <https://highvaleps.vic.edu.au/parent-information/#policies>

It is important to note that once a student leaves Highvale Primary School the eduSTAR SOE (Standard Operating Environment) image will need to be updated depending on the secondary school your child attends. If they attend a government secondary school, the eduSTAR image will continue but may need updating depending on the school's specific image. If attending an independent secondary school we recommend that you speak with the ICT technician as soon as possible to get the new image install as the eduSTAR SOE will expire.

Further information relating to the Year 3-6 BYOD Program is available on the Highvale Primary School website. If families have further questions concerning our optional BYOD Program, they are welcome to contact the school office.

Kind regards,



Steve Richardson
Principal