

2023 BSWPS Device Program

Frequently Asked Questions



Why should I spend money on a computer? Isn't this the school's responsibility?

This is your choice. The school provides devices to students for communal classroom use but cannot financially sustain a solely school-funded program. Classrooms only have limited access to technology, and your child may complete tasks or research using school-provided technology only if it is available. This may be shared use. Should your child participate in the BYOD program, they will have access to their own device as needed, provided it is charged and at school. Please also read the form - *Why we use devices to teach?*

I don't want my child spending too much time on the computer.

ICT does not replace quality teaching. The use of ICT will be purposeful and support your child(ren) in their learning. Students who participate in the BYOD program will predominantly use ICT for research, development of computer skills, the creation of digital media and documents, or collaboration with their peers.

What is BSWPS's recommended device?

If you choose to participate in the program you will need to organise the purchase of your own device. BSWPS has set up a parent portal with Learning With Technology (LWT) to allow parents to purchase a recommended device which includes a 3-year Warranty and optional 3-year Accidental Damage Insurance for the ACER Device and options for the Lenovo as well. Obtaining Accidental Damage insurance for the device is strongly recommended as the device is not covered by BSWPS's insurance policies. However, the device may come under your existing home and contents insurance, so please check that prior to purchasing insurance through LWT. A link to the portal can be found here <https://brunswickswps.orderportal.com.au/>

Do I need to buy the school-recommended device or can I bring a different device?

We believe having a standardised device allows teachers to maximise the use of provided applications and provides the students with the best possible uses of technology. To participate in BYOD at BSWPS you must purchase one of the options at the LWT portal, we **heavily recommend** the ACER B311 because it is a sturdy machine that lasts the journey. The reason we don't allow any device to be used is to ease complications for our teaching staff and service technicians at BSWPS. This allows us to put our school image on all the devices and connect them easily to the EduStar wireless network. It also eases the strain on teachers in the classroom who may need to troubleshoot problems with the device.

Is my child's device insured by the school?

No. Insurance is dependent on the supplier/place of purchase. BSWPS assumes no responsibility for insurance. You can purchase insurance when you purchase the laptop at the LWT portal.

What if my child's device is damaged or needs repair?

BSWPS has risk minimisation policies in place and takes no responsibility for damage. Students are expected to ensure devices are not near any liquids or foods. Devices are to be placed on a stable surface at all times, so they cannot fall or be knocked easily. If accidental damage occurs and you have purchased insurance through LWT, you can log a repair at the BSWPS Portal <https://brunswickswps.orderportal.com.au/>. Scroll down and click on the "How to Get Support" option. Click on the link to log a job and fill in all the necessary information. The laptop can be stored at

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the office at school until it is repaired. An instruction sheet on how to log a job will be provided at the office and you can find it on our website.

If the device is faulty then it may be covered under warranty. A warranty repair is logged in exactly the same way as an insurance repair.

How can I be sure my child's device won't be lost or stolen?

Teachers are expected to lock classrooms when they are unattended. Any device that cannot be located must be reported immediately. Students are not permitted to handle, interfere with, or touch another student's device under any circumstance. Students may be excluded from participation in the BYOD program - if deemed appropriate by the classroom teacher, school leaders or ICT team - for breaching this expectation. Please note your child's device is not covered by BSWPS's insurance.

What is the best way to ensure my child's device is protected from being easily damaged?

BSWPS suggests any portable device used at school has quality cases or skins that protect the device's corners, edges and screens. These can be purchased through LWT or your supplier.

How does my child's device get to school safely?

Students accept full responsibility for devices while they are not within the allocated secure spaces at school. Devices should be carried to and from school each day in their case.

What if I don't want my child to carry the laptop to and from school?

If you would like to leave the device at school each night during the school term, then that is an option you can tick on the Device Program Participation Form that needs to be returned to the office. You will also have to sign a form to give us permission to store the laptop overnight. This will not be covered under school's insurance. It will be kept at school in a charge station that can be locked up. The charge station will be chained to the school building inside a locked classroom each night. You will also need to provide the charger to be hooked up in the charge station.

Does my child's device need to be charged, or can they do that at school?

Devices are expected to be charged at home and come to school with a full charge so they can be used at the beginning of the first session. If the device is not charged the student will need to share a class device if available. Students are not allowed to charge their device at school.

Is my child allowed real-time communication (e-mail, chat, etc.)?

Students may use real-time communication apps (such as email services or blog systems) when teacher consent is given and the purpose is relevant to learning tasks. Telephones or other devices that do not adhere to BYOD specifications may not be used during school hours, as per the school's *Mobile Technologies Policy*.

What internet services can I use? Are home networks OK?

Students may connect to both home and school networks, however, they may not connect to any non-school networks while the device is at school. Students will have access to the school's filtered internet service, provided they adhere to the school's *Internet Policy*.

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Can my child use their device for games, photos or videos, etc.?

Students are allowed to store their own content on devices. They are not allowed to access personal games, media or other content during school hours without teacher consent.

What will happen if my child loses data?

Students are responsible for backing up any personal data. When students use Google Classroom to create documents, auto-backups may be generated automatically.

What is the best way to ensure my child's content is safe?

The school's image will password-protect the laptop. While the school strongly suggests all families use antivirus software, it is each family's prerogative to select the software that best suits their needs.

Access to the internet at school is filtered by the Department of Education's Internet Service Provider to help safeguard students from inappropriate content.

If you would like to restrict your BYOD even further, the school can put on administration rights to stop downloading and installation of software such as games. If you would like this to be done, please tick the option on the Device Program Participation Form. You will also need to sign a form authorising the school to put administration rights onto the device; these will be available at the office.

It is recommended that parents explore their options for parental controls on devices to ensure content accessed at home is appropriate for the age of their child. Resources and information are available at

www.esafety.gov.au/parents/resources .

What support will the school provide my child, with regard to their device?

BSWPS will provide support to ensure students have access to the internet. No technical support is provided other than the connection to the internet, provided devices adhere to the specifications outlined in this document. The school will also provide explicit teaching of eSafety by using the Cyber Safety Project (<https://cybersafetyproject.com.au/>) from Foundation right through to Year 6.

Can students access social media?

Most social media sites have an age limit of at least 13 years and are therefore blocked by the Department's filtering system. If you choose to allow access to these sites at home, it is your responsibility to monitor use.