Castlemaine Secondary College

BYOD - Bring Your Own Device

What is BYOD?
The Bring Your Own Device program, or BYOD, is a partnership between the Department of Education (DET), Castlemaine Secondary College (CSC) and families to provide students with access to technology at school.

DET provides internet access through its wireless networks at no cost to students on the understanding and agreement of the DET's Acceptable Use Policy as well as a signed agreement with the CSC. CSC provides online platforms, learning resources and technical assistance to support student learning, and families provide a compatible electronic device to suit personal circumstances, rather than being locked into one form of technology.

Technology has become an integral part to student learning from Year 7 onwards with all students required to bring their device to school on a daily basis.

How much will I need to spend on a device?
The purchase of a device is a major decision and a significant expense. CSC provides recommendations for devices at different price points. Go to www.csc.vic.edu.au

What are the minimum specifications?
To ensure maximum value for our students, the device provided must be able to connect to the school WiFi and have the following specific operating systems, software or apps installed:

- Windows 7, Windows 8/8.1 or Windows 10
- Wireless N (minimum requirement for connection) to Wireless AC (best connection)
- Notetaking (Eg. Evernote)
- Internet browser (Eg. Internet Explorer, Chrome, Safari, Firefox)

CSC can supply software including Office and antivirus if required or student can download software from the Edustar Catalogue at https://www.edustar.vic.edu.au/Catalogue/Pages/SolutionsHome.aspx. Downloading requires log-in details provided to students at the start of the year.

Where can I get advice on and/or purchase BYO Devices?
Devices with the above specifications may be purchased from any computer supplier. CSC currently works with and recommends the following suppliers:

Top End Technology supplies devices suitable for the CSC environment including the *Leader – SC406 14" laptop*. Phone: (03) 5472 1700 or visit 345 Barker Street, Castlemaine.

Learning with Technology (LWT) has a range of devices identified by CSC technicians as most suitable in a range of prices with financing options. Information about recommended notebooks (including the *Lenovo – ThinkPad 11E 11.6" Laptop)* can be found www.csc.vic.edu.au with a direct link to an online portal with pricing and purchasing information or at www.lwt.com.au. Contact the LWT Sales department on 1300 550 717 for further information.

What about extended warranties or insurance?
As students can and do damage or lose their devices, purchasing an extended warranty or insurance for loss or damage is highly recommended.

An optional extended warranty (past the standard warranty period) can be purchased from the supplier/manufacturer of the device, during which time any manufacturing defects that may occur will also be repaired. Please note broken screens are not generally considered a warranty item, nor are damaged keyboards. These can be covered by accidental damage insurance, also available from LWT. If an extended warranty is purchased through LWT, claims can be processed onsite with the assistance of CSC technicians.

What is the best option when considering the choice of notebook, netbook or tablet?

A full breakdown of all options available on the wider market are available at www.csc.vic.edu.au with the pros and cons of the recommended devices listed below:

Device	Pro	Con
Notebook	Larger screen; full size keyboard; optical drive; more powerful processor; generally more robust; 3D graphics; better multimedia capability; generally more memory	Larger footprint; heavier; shorter battery life; shorter battery run time
Netbook	Longer battery life; small footprint; light	Smaller screen; no cdrom; no 3D graphics; low end video not suitable for graphic editing; smaller keyboard
MacBook	Good at Graphics and Multimedia; robust and durable. Note: network connection requires IOS 10.6 or later – NOT recommended	Not good with productive software; Apple updates may cause unreliability in connectivity; shorter battery life; heavy; less tech support available; less network resources available than Windows machines; not always upgradable Security may not be suitable for connection to network; unable to access school network resources or printers; not much internal storage
Windows tablet	Long battery life; light; can install Office and other productive programs; recommended alternative to notebook or netbook for most streams	Not suitable for graphics editing or other processor intensive applications; not as much internal storage
iPad, Android tablet or other device Not suitable for connection to secure network; very limited productivity software available		

How do students connect to the CSC network?

At the start of the year, Mentor teachers distribute a unique username and password to each of their students and assist them to log in and connect. These teachers continue to check in with their students to ensure all are able to connect to the network and access required resources.

What technical support will the school provide if there is a problem with the device?

CSC Technicians are available to assist students with software issues from the ICT Helpdesk within the Library. If the issue is with the hardware and the device is still under warranty, students will be advised to contact the manufacturer or point of purchase.

How can we ensure the security of the device at school?

When not in use with classrooms, students are responsible for securing their device in their locker. If you are concerned the device is going to be broken, lost or stolen, you may wish to consider specific accidental loss and breakage insurance for the device.

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

For further information, please contact Sam Murphy, ICT Technician at Castlemaine Secondary College (on 03) 5479 1111.