

# MURTOA COLLEGE

## BYOD EQUITY POLICY



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand this policy, please contact the Principal at Murtoa College or call 53 852 381

### Rationale:

The Murtoa College Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program, like all BYOD programs in an education setting, inherently imposes a financial cost on students and their families in supplying a device. At the same time, the Murtoa College BYOD program can only function if all students have access to appropriate technological resources in all their classes. Murtoa College takes seriously the role of public education in ensuring all students have access to the same learning outcomes. The purpose of the BYOD Equity Policy is to establish the framework for the BYOD program to provide this for all students, irrespective of their families' financial means.

### Aim:

1. To achieve the objectives of the Murtoa College BYOD Policy, the College will facilitate and promote the bringing of a computing device to school by all students in Years 7 - 12 for use in their education.
2. to ensure equity in the BYOD program and its implementation.
3. to ensure all students have access to appropriate technological resources in their classes.
4. to provide a framework through which family requests for assistance can be managed consistently.

### Implementation:

#### **(A) Murtoa College**

Murtoa College will:

1. Endeavour to provide personal access to appropriate technology resources to all students operating under the school's Bring Your Own Device program in keeping with the objectives of that policy and with respect to its role as a public education institution.
2. Ensure the BYOD Program's Device Specification is designed so that a range of devices in capability and cost are suitable and meet the Specification.
3. Assess applications for assistance in meeting the requirements of the BYOD program on a case-by-case basis. Due consideration will be given to all the facts of the matter, including:
  - The level of assistance requested.
  - Student Wellbeing, Engagement & Inclusion Executive Team's assessment of an individuals' personal circumstances.
  - The year level of the student.
  - The subjects the student undertakes.
  - The technology already available to the student at school and at home.
4. Consult with the parent/carer/guardian in making determinations as to what form any assistance will take.
5. Consider a range of alternatives for providing device access for students, including:
  - Priority or reserved access to desktop computers in computer rooms or the library during class time, free periods, before or after school or during breaks.
  - Loan of a laptop or other device for a particular period or class.

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- Loan of a laptop or other device for a particular day
  - Recurrent daily loan of a laptop or other device.
6. Make a written agreement between the school, student and parent/carer/guardian that specifies the arrangements agreed upon or determined for facilitating access to technological resources.
  7. In most circumstances, not agree to loan a laptop or other device to a student overnight, over a weekend or over a holiday period.
  8. Provide a protocol for ensuring priority or reserved access to desktop computers where this access is considered appropriate.
  9. Provide a protocol for signing out and signing back in a laptop or other device from the BYOD Support Technology Support Office and follow up any cases where the loaned device is not returned in accordance with the agreement.

### **(B) Students and Parents/Carers/Guardians:**

1. Consider options for the purchase or lease of equipment that meets the Device Specification. Murtoa College will endeavor to make a broad selection of devices in a range of price points match the Specification.
2. If parents/carers/guardians believe they are unable to provide a device that meets the specification:
  - Make an application in writing to the principal or make an appointment to speak with the Assistant Principal (Learning & Teaching) and indicate assistance is required in addressing the school's Bring Your Own Device program.
  - The school will liaise with parents/carers/guardians, students and teachers to identify the most appropriate way to address the issue and ensure students have appropriate access to the technological resources of their peers.
  - Parents/Carers/Guardians will be asked to make an agreement with the school that confirms the alternative arrangements made for your student's access to technological resources.
3. The school will not purchase a device to assign to a student nor will the school make a device available for permanent or semi-permanent loan. In substitution of a personal device the school will consider options including:
  - Priority or reserved access to desktop computers in computer labs or selected laptops during free periods, before or after school or during breaks.
  - Loan of a laptop or other device for a particular period or class.
  - Loan of a laptop or other device for a particular day.
  - Recurrent daily loan of a laptop or other device.

### **POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Policy last reviewed	November 2024
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	November 2027

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