



**MOUNT ALBERT  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

# **Bring Your Own Device Years 9-13**





## **Students in Years 9-13 are required to bring a personal computing device for use in class to assist their learning.**

A student-owned, internet-capable device will give your child instant access to unlimited resources and enable them to support, extend, communicate and share their learning in a way that will also prepare them for their future personal and working lives.

### **The advantages of a student-owned device include:**

- Anytime, anywhere access to resources on the internet, class files, support and extension activities
- Student ability to draft and easily edit their work before final submission and save their work in the cloud
- Greater ability to communicate with teachers, parents and peers to support student learning through access to student e-mail, shared documents and communication software

## **Research citing the benefits of digital learning**

*E-Learning and Implications for New Zealand Schools* by Noelene Wright from the University of Waikato highlights the following additional benefits of e-learning as a result of access to internet-capable devices.

- Improved motivation and engagement
- Greater independence and personalised learning
- Improved critical thinking and development of multiple literacies
- Greater opportunities for collaboration beyond school walls

## **Ensuring our systems will support Bring Your Own Device**

The school network has been upgraded to ensure we have the best possible network to support BYOD and our school computing resources, providing:

- Reliable, high-performance Gigabit data connections to every classroom
- High-speed managed wireless in every classroom
- A dedicated 1000mps internet service from the Network for Learning

## Which device?

The iPad (6th generation) is the device we recommend to parents and students. The iPad Pro or iPad 5th generation are also suitable.

### The iPad offers:

- Instant on and off capability
- High-quality touch screen functionality
- Good device speed
- Excellent wireless connectivity
- Long battery life
- Robust if in a strong case
- Free top-class software included to help with productivity
- Excellent educational apps
- Compatibility and connectivity with the school's Mac desktop computers
- Teachers' familiarity as a result of professional development with the iPad

### The device needs to be able to:

- Access the school wireless
- Access the internet and therefore also send and receive mail
- Voice record
- Capture images and videos
- Take notes
- Hold at least six hours battery charge
- A keyboard is recommended, but not compulsory

If your device is a tablet, the screen needs to be at least 7.9" in diameter and contain at least 32GB storage. The device does not have to be a tablet. Laptops may suit some students better. **Students buying a new device for Years 11 to 13 may prefer to purchase a laptop because of the number of NCEA assignments.**



Please note that students with Chromebooks have access to only the online versions (with fewer features) of Microsoft products like OneNote and Excel that are used in class.

If students bring other devices, they must know how to use them, as our teacher professional development is based primarily on the use of iPads in the classroom.

We wish to inform you now of our BYOD requirement for students entering Years 9-13, as the school is aware of the extra financial demands for parents providing a device. Initiatives to provide access to special pricing may be found on the school website on the BYOD page.

The school provides some access to loaner devices during the school day for families in need.

## Digital Citizenship

The school encourages students to participate in society as good digital citizens. When using ICT (information and communication technology), students should behave online as they would in person.

Elements of digital citizenship are reinforced through several initiatives inside and outside the classroom.

Drawing on the values and key competencies of the New Zealand Curriculum we can begin to define a digital citizen as someone who:

- is a confident and capable user of ICT
- uses ICT to participate in educational, cultural and economic activities
- develops and demonstrates critical thinking skills through ICT
- is literate in the language, symbols and texts of ICT
- is aware of the challenges presented by ICT and can manage them effectively
- relates to others in positive, meaningful ways through ICT
- demonstrates honesty and integrity in their use of ICT
- respects the concepts of privacy and freedom of speech in a digital world
- contributes and actively promotes the values of digital citizenship as defined here

**“We need to ensure that our students are 21st century learners who are capable and responsible digital citizens.”**

Patrick Drumm, Headmaster



## Further Information

For further guidance on BYOD at Mount Albert Grammar School, please consult the BYOD section of the school website at [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

The school will hold an information evening later in the year for parents and prospective students.

**[www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)**

