

BYOD – What’s it about?

The BYOD program at Woombye State School enables students from Years 4, 5 and 6 to bring their own computer devices to their classrooms to greatly enhance their learning potential in our “digital age”.

However, there is a lot more to digital learning than simply learning how to use tablets and laptops! The use of devices in the classrooms offers the opportunity for students to become truly independent learners. To find out how, go to any of the websites listed below in this section.

What device should I buy?

Woombye State School recommends the use of smaller laptops (sometimes called notebooks) and / or iPads (preferably with a keyboard attachment). Education Queensland does NOT recommend Android powered devices.

What specifications should the device have?

Laptops or notebooks:

- Preferably 11” – 12” screen,
- Windows 10 operating system – **NOT** Windows 10S
- SSD 128 GB storage.
- RAM 4GB or higher
- Battery that will at least last for a whole school day.
- Touchscreen is desirable but not essential.
- 3 Year warranty (preferably onsite if possible).
- Accidental damage insurance coverage.

iPads:

- iOS 11 or later
- Preferably with Bluetooth keyboard (if possible)
- 9.7” screen minimum (not mini-iPad)

Which is better for BYOD – an iPad or a Notebook?

Sometimes this conversation ends up sounding like a Ford vs Holden or League vs Rugby argument. The truth of the matter is that for BYOD purposes, either can be very useful. Each has its pros and cons:

- *Windows 10 laptops can access more interactive web content than an iPad can because many of the interactive activities on the web are built using Flash software, .*
- *iPads are terrific for taking pictures and making videos, but apps are limited to what you can download from Apple’s AppStore and the price of many apps has risen substantially. Without a separate keyboard, the smaller screen of the iPad can make creating content more difficult than using a laptop or notepad.*

