

Dear Parent / Caregiver

From the start of the 2017 school year, exciting changes are taking place at Wirreanda Secondary School in respect of the use of technology as we move to a compulsory Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy. This means that **all students are expected to have a device to learn with in every lesson.**

We have worked closely with Harvey Norman Business and Education to provide opportunities to purchase a device for BYOD. There are 3 devices to choose from and these specialist education devices come with a 3 year on-site warranty where issues are attended to at the school by visiting service engineers. The devices can **only** be ordered online through: <https://www.harveynormanbusiness.com.au/wss16>. All of the devices will shortly be on display in the Harvey Norman store at Noarlunga and in school.

Students may already have a device to bring to the school for learning. While every effort will be made to allow connection to the school's Wi-Fi network, if the device does not meet minimum specifications we may not be able to assist. Generally the school is able to support Windows 7; 10.9 (Mavericks) or later for Macs and iOS 7. Chromebooks should be on the latest version. For ease of reading, it is suggested that all screens should be a minimum of 11 inches. It has been found that screen sizes smaller than this are not conducive to effective work. All digital devices must have WiFi capability (802.11n network cards are preferred). Please ensure your device has at least 2GB of free disk space and at least 4GB RAM. At the very least it should be a dual CPU machine. **The battery on the device must be able to last for the school day (a minimum of 6 hours).** We also ask that students bring devices with keyboards that can support traditional software packages. **Laptop or notebook-style devices will give them the greatest benefits in supporting their learning.**

We recognise that this can be a confusing issue to deal with for some parents and caregivers. Hence, we urge you to contact us if you are unsure of anything in relation to BYOD. We also realise that some families may struggle financially to equip their son/daughter with a device. Again, early communication with the school is key to solving this issue.

Further information is available on the school website on the BYOD link. All communication regarding BYOD should be directed to Nick Jackson, Senior Leader, by email on Nick.Jackson721@schools.sa.edu.au or by phoning the school.

Yours sincerely

Nick Jackson