

**Xavier College**  
1170-1172 Ninth Avenue, Llandilo NSW 2747  
PO Box 98, Cranebrook, NSW 2749  
Tel (02) 4777 0900 Fax (02) 4777 0930  
www.xavierllandilo.catholic.edu.au



1 December 2015

**Dear Parents / Guardians,**

In 2014 Xavier College implemented its BYOD programme where incoming year 7 students supplied their own device for learning. The beginning of 2015 saw the continuation of the programme and in 2016, every child in year 7, 8 and 9 will be providing their own device for their learning. In 2016, this means 50% of the College student population will be bringing their own device to school for learning as part of our BYOD programme. Of the remaining 50% of the student population, many students will supply their own device, whether it is in the form of a tablet, laptop or smart phone. In 2016 we will be extending the BYOD programme to include students from year 10 to 12 and are requesting that students in those years supply a device for their learning. **From 2017, it will be mandated that each student will bring their own device to school for learning.**

As we are all aware, BYOD has infiltrated its way into just about every industry: small business, large enterprise, government and especially education. Many schools across our Diocese are implementing BYOD programs to increase the access that students have to the internet, digital content, and a range of educational opportunities. By introducing our BYOD programme, we saw a way to create workforce-ready students. When our students leave school they will be entering a workforce that will rely heavily on mobile technology. BYOD at Xavier allows students to learn with the tools they will be working with in the future and by bringing their own device to school, they will be using the devices they are comfortable with.

Schools are currently finding it difficult and expensive to maintain large fleets of laptops for student use. Since the ending of the previous Federal Government's "Digital Education Revolution" (DER) in 2013, our school has spent and continues to spend, considerable amounts of money maintaining and repairing our current fleet of aging laptops. The implementation of the BYOD programme has enabled the College to divert funds into more educationally sound programmes such as increasing the range and density of our wireless network infrastructure and the roll out of ClickView which is allowing our staff to flip the classroom.

Our BYOD programme empowers our students by allowing them to make their own technology choices with regards to the device they want to use for learning. Student-owned devices also offer more opportunities for learning to continue at home where our students can access our online learning environment, Moodle, Classm8 and ClickView, anywhere and anytime. The devices also enable students to keep work in one place, such as in the Cloud or in the device itself. We have also found that students are more likely to take better care of devices that belong to them.

BYOD is about delivering education in new ways. Technology plays a huge role in our students' everyday lives and it is an integral part of their learning. For our school and most others, it is financially unsustainable to provide every student with state-of-the-art technology. It is for these reasons we are extending our BYOD programme across all years from 2016 onwards with full mandatory implementation by 2017.

We have produced the attached document to guide you in the choice of a device for your child's learning. Students in Year 11 and 12 in 2016 may take this opportunity to identify and purchase a device that would suit them when they leave school and begin their tertiary studies or enter the workforce. Students in Year 10 in 2016 should look for a device that will give them a life span of at least three years, to see them through the senior years.

## Apple Online Purchase Portal

The CEO, in partnership with Apple, have created an online portal to allow students and families of our Diocese to purchase Apple devices at educational discounts.

To purchase the Apple products, families will need to visit <http://bvod.parra.catholic.edu.au>. This custom page directs families to the Diocese's unique portal, and it offers all the same great features and access to all products and accessories of the regular Apple Online Store, like free delivery.

Families can also visit their local Apple Store and letting them know that they are from **Parramatta Catholic School** to get the same pricing, advice or discuss the products that they might be considering. The contact centre is also available on 133-622.

Apple offers special iPad and Mac pricing for students attending our schools. This special pricing is available for purchases made at Apple Stores, through our school's customised online store or via the Apple contact centre. If families are purchasing in-store or over the phone just let the Specialist know your child's school name.

Finance options are also available for purchases if families are purchasing at an Apple Store or online.

The Apple Store is a great place to learn about, try and buy Apple products for education. Apple Specialists are on hand to help families and their student get to know their new Apple device, and with Personal Setup they can help get new devices up and running before they leave the store.

Families and students can join one of the daily in-store workshops to learn a new skill, and students can learn and create at one of the Apple Camp or Field Trip events. Visit <http://www.apple.com/au/retail/castletowers>, <http://www.apple.com/au/retail/penrith> to go directly to the Apple Store Castle Towers or Apple Store Penrith Apple Store and view the schedule.

Apple can also provide support with everything related to your new Apple purchase — from using iPad to troubleshooting iTunes. You can get support by phone, email or online chat or set up a repair or Genius Bar reservation at <http://getsupport.apple.com>.

There are two Apple Stores in the Parramatta Diocese. Please find below their details if you wish to contact them.

Apple Store, Castle Towers

Phone: 02 8864 0820

Email: [castletowersbusiness@apple.com](mailto:castletowersbusiness@apple.com)

Apple Store, Penrith

Phone : 02 4702 9420

Email: [penrithbusiness@apple.com](mailto:penrithbusiness@apple.com)

Please read through the attached document regarding device types and if you have any questions concerning the purchase of an appropriate device for your son or daughter's learning, please do not hesitate to contact the College.



Mr Michael Pate  
College Principal



Mr Andrew Wonson  
Director of Innovation & E-Learning



# Xavier College BYOD Device Requirements Checklist

*A BYOD device for Xavier College can be a tablet, smartphone or laptop.*

## Wireless Connectivity

Wireless connectivity is the key to BYOD devices in schools. Devices should support dual band wireless or 802.11 n/ac.



## Operating System Choice (Laptop / Smartphone / Tablet)

- Windows 8.1 or Windows 7 Professional.
- Mac OS X 10.11, 10.10, 10.9, 10.8.
- iOS 9.1 for iPad/iPhone.

## Battery Life

Minimum: 6 hours



Devices need to last the school day. We recommend a minimum of 6 hours battery life. There are no facilities for charging devices at school.



## Memory

Tablets &  
Smartphone: 32 GB Storage  
Laptops: 4 GB RAM

To be able to store and process data effectively these **minimum** specifications are recommended. Laptops will have a Hard Disk Drive or Solid State Drive (SSD).

## Hardware Features

### Camera & Microphone



These are necessary to ensure students can participate in a variety of learning activities. A stylus or keyboard in a case may also be useful for a tablet.



### Screen Size

Ensure the device screen is of a reasonable size to enable ease of use throughout a school day. A small phone may not be suitable for your child to work on all day. A laptop provides a larger screen.

## Other Essential Considerations

**Casing:** Needs to be tough and sturdy. Can it be dropped without breaking?

**Weight:** Is the laptop light enough for your child to carry each day?

**Durability:** Consider the overall durability of the device. Are the keys, hinges and inputs sturdy?

**Backing Up:** Students will need to back up the data that they have stored on their device.

**Cloud Storage:** Students can create accounts at the following Cloud Storage providers for backup: DropBox, Google Drive.

Remember that this device is expected to last several years.

## Accessories



**Carry Case:** A Carry case or skin is essential in protecting your device. Some tablet cases include a built-in keyboard.

**Insurance:** Devices can become lost or be broken easily at school or while travelling. Make sure your home and contents policy covers these eventualities.

**Warranty:** You may wish to consider purchasing extra warranty to reduce future repair costs as these devices will be used extensively.