

## **BYOD – BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Whangārei Boys' High School is an avid user of a mix of technologies to aid in delivering the curriculum in a variety of ways for best outcomes. In all of our subjects, classes will be conducted using Google Workspace for Education, Google Classroom and other online tools. So, it is essential to have a device suitable for the modern classroom.



**CHROMEBOOKS** - We have identified that a Chromebook is a great device for students from Year 9 up to at least Year 11, and for many it will be the logical choice for senior students as well.

Chromebooks are available from many different resellers, are cost effective, have a fast start up time, all day battery life, work both offline and online, have consistent performance over the lifetime of the device and are not susceptible to viruses or malware. They integrate with Google Workspace for Education which is our main learning platform here at Whangārei Boys' High School.

**REFURBISHED CHROMEBOOKS** – Chromebooks that have been leased to an organization, that lease has ended and the devices are returned to the supplier, refurbished, tested and the sold at a much reduced price, typically under \$300 with a 12 month warranty. The device may have some wear marks but will perform the same as a new Chromebook.

**LAPTOPS** – More senior level students, or those planning on further tertiary education may prefer to purchase a laptop depending on their study criteria. Please review your personal and future course requirements when looking at purchasing to ensure the device meets course demand.

**SPECIFICATIONS** – Devices come in several different configurations. The specifications that will make your Chromebook a little faster and more usable are RAM (memory) Storage (hard drive size) and processor speed (opt for a faster processor if possible, for example an Intel processor with 4 cores rather than 2 cores). Screen sizes and Wi-Fi specs are quite consistent across all models, but the main two are 11" and the larger 14" screens. See minimum specifications below.

**COMPATIBILITY** – Almost all Chromebooks and Laptops are compatible with Whangārei Boys' High School's network system as long as they have the minimum specifications.

*Note: If you already have a Chromebook: Please make sure that it has been removed from your previous schools' "Google Management Console" as we cannot do this for you. You will not be able to use the Chromebook at Whangārei Boys' High School until this has been done.*

## MINIMUM SPECIFICATIONS



You may already have your own Apple or Windows computer; this is fine, and your son will not be disadvantaged at all.

Chromebook minimum requirements for curriculum work would need to be:

- A screen size of at least 11" inch. 14" inch is preferred by the majority of students.
- A physical keyboard
- Google Chrome Browser Installed (or Edge Chromium)
- All day battery life
- Wi-Fi
- RAM (memory) 4Gb
- An IPAD or Android Tablet is NOT considered a suitable device.

Laptop minimum requirements for curriculum work would need to be:

- A screen size of at least 14"
- Intel Processor i5 minimum
- Google Chrome Browser Installed (or Edge Chromium)
- All day battery life
- Wi-Fi and/or Network port
- RAM (memory) 8Gb

**FREE STUFF** – Microsoft Office products are available as a free installation on MAC and Windows computers with your son's Whangārei Boys' High School logon.

<https://products.office.com/en-nz/student/office-in-education>



## **PURCHASING A BYOD DEVICE CONSIDERATIONS**

Chromebooks and other devices are available to purchase from most major retailers or you may wish to purchase one from any other retail outlet of your choice.

## **STOCK LEVELS**

Due to Covid-19 and high demand there may be some shortages of Chromebooks with some retailers for the next few months but stock levels will recover as shipping supply lines resume at normal levels.

## **WINZ**

Chromebooks can also be financed through WINZ for families on lower incomes. You do not need to be a WINZ client and we understand that no interest is charged. You don't have to be on a benefit to qualify for this help.

More information can be found at this location

<https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/eligibility/children/school-uniforms-and-stationery.html#null>

**INSURANCE** – Damage to your own Chromebook or other device will need to be covered by the owner. A Chromebook is often priced below insurance excess, so you should take advantage of some of the extended warranty / Insurance offers from retailers at time of purchase.

## **SUPPLIERS of BYOD**

Almost all major tech retailers will have a BYOD Device to suite your needs with a wide range and competitive pricing. You are welcome to source a device from any supplier you choose. Below are some of those retailers that Whangārei Boys High use for device procurement.

## **Barrels %100 Whangārei**

If you would like to support our local retailers Whangārei Boys' High School has a great relationship with Barrels %100 store located at the Tarewa Mega Centre. Stop in and talk to the staff at Barrels who can help you select the right device for your son.

<https://www.100percent.co.nz/Whangārei>

## **PBtech**

PBtech are a large retailer of computers and other electronics. They can supply Chromebooks and other devices, accessories, and insurance packages. Visit their BYOD page at <https://www.pbtech.co.nz>

Or view devices specifically selected by Whangārei Boys' High School at

<https://www.pbtech.co.nz/education/byod/Whangārei-boys-high-school>

Finance options are also available.

## **Cyclone Computers**

Cyclone Computers are the largest specialist supplier of computers and technology in New Zealand schools.

They can supply all devices, accessories, and insurance packages. Visit their Student page at <https://byod.cyclone.co.nz/student>

## **Other large retailers include**

Harvey Normans, Noel Leeming, The Warehouse Stationary.

## **Internet Safety at Whangārei Boys' High School**

1. All students are bound by Whangārei Boys' High School's Internet Use Policies.
2. Internet use is filtered by Linewize and N4. Logs are made of all usage.
3. Social Media is blocked school wide.
4. The attempted use of VPN and proxy software to bypass filtering will result in a quarantine period from the network.
5. Each student has an individual password for their account, this password should be kept secure.

## **Internet Safety at Home**

1. Netsafe is the best place for information and resources for internet safety at home.  
<http://www.netsafe.org.nz>
2. Contact your internet provider to ask about routers with internet filtering and possible security features.