Dr. G. W. Williams Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Guide

Empowering our students to collaborate, create and think critically with technology.



What is a Bring Your Own Device Program?

It is a teaching and learning environment in which each participating student and teacher has access to a personal computing device on a direct and continuous basis for educational purposes. Students are required to bring their own primary device to school each day.

Students do not share their technology with other students and they take ownership for their own devices. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen devices.

Why this approach?

- It teaches students to be critical thinking creators with technology rather than passive consumers
- It teaches effective use of technology and increases digital citizenship skills
- It supports students in developing technology skills using it in ways that are meaningful and constructive
- It supports individualized and collaborative learning
- Learning can extend beyond the classroom to include families and other learning communities

What have we observed so far in the BYOD program?

- Increased collaboration within and beyond the classroom
- Faster and more efficient teacher feedback on work-in-progress and assignments
- Cross-curricular use of technology skills application
- Engagement and motivation
- Increased parental involvement (e.g. share calendars, access to classroom tasks)
- Student access to interactive learning tools, simulations, multimedia and new technologies



What type of device do students require?

Students will require a primary device such as a laptop (preferred), chromebook or tablet with keyboard attachment.

Cell phones are NOT a primary device.

Please refer to the <u>Board's Appropriate Use of Technology</u> <u>Policy and Procedure</u> that addresses the appropriate, responsible and acceptable use of the Board's information technology resources.

Is there an assistance program for technology?

In the fall and spring there is usually an opportunity for families in need of financial support to purchase refurbished technology.

Also our Board partner, DELL, is offering families discounts on technology through their DELL Education Purchase Program. Please visit www.dell.ca/mop/yrdsb Need help? Please connect with one of our BYOD committee members.

Families that are concerned about the additional funds required to provide their student(s) with a device should contact their alpha Vice-Principal (A-Le, Mr. Arnott ken.arnott@yrdsb.ca or Li-Z Mr. Gazaneo andrew.gazaneo@yrdsb.ca) to discuss a long-term loan of a school-provided chromebook.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the Bring Your Own Device program at GW Williams?

For technical questions please email Ms. King or Mr. Buono (hailey.king@yrdsb.ca, anthony.buono@yrdsb.ca).