



Cairns State High School

**Bring your own device program (BYOx)
Years 7, 8 and 9 2016**

Frequently asked questions

What is BYOx?

BYOx stands for Bring Your Own X (suitable device for school use). It is a scheme designed to allow all students at Cairns State High School to have access to digital learning.

Why BYOx?

Previously the federal government funded NSSCF program provided laptops to students. This program no longer exists but the school needs students to have access to the Australian Curriculum as it is delivered in Queensland State Schools. This requires Cairns High to be able to deliver the curriculum digitally across all subjects.

Cairns High is delivering lessons using technology and needs to continue this practice to effectively deliver the curriculum and continue to develop students as contemporary learners.

How will my child be using their device in the classroom?

Technology is a tool in the day-to-day learning of contemporary students, not a special event or something separate from their everyday experiences. Different teachers in different classes will use technology in different ways. Students will not be learning in a paperless or wholly online environment. They will be using technology in classes to support the best possible approaches to rigorous teaching and learning.

How will my student keep their device safe?

Parents are encouraged to purchase a protective case and students are encouraged to use this case for all transportation of the device during the school day. The school does supply some lockers for student usage. Locker allocations are available at the beginning of the year.

Why does my child still have to have a textbook list?

The school has developed quality electronic resources and students are provided with access to etexts. However, students will still have textbooks in some subjects where etexts are unavailable. Some publishers have yet to offer their books in an electronic version and it is important to give access to the best resources to support student learning.



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Why do the students still have to buy traditional stationery to use in class?

Having a device in class will not make Cairns High a paperless school. Many aspects of learning will best occur through students experimenting with a pen and paper, or manipulating things in a traditional way for many years to come. When the best way to engage with ideas or concepts is through technology, teachers will use it.

What do I need to do as a parent/carer?

Plan to purchase a device suitable for school needs. The estimated cost is from \$500 to \$1000. The cost will depend on the device selected.

What are the minimum requirements for a computer?

Minimum Requirements

Windows Laptop or Windows Tablet (with Keyboard) Windows 8 or newer

Windows 8 or Windows 10 is preferred - Windows 7 at a pinch

Computer with a minimum of 4GB RAM

Wireless networking capacity (WiFi)

Minimum battery life of 6 hours to cover the school day

Suitable Anti-Virus software (Parents/carers can purchase Symantec Anti-virus for \$9.99 per year or \$29.99 for a three year subscription for students)

Necessary Software

Microsoft Office "Student Advantage Program" supplied free of charge via download (Included in this free software package is licencing for each student to install on up to five devices).

Other items the school recommends parents/carers purchase

Protective case

Pointing device (mouse or stylus)

Onsite warranty (Next Business Day (NDB) Onsite Warranty is STRONGLY recommended)

Accidental Damage Protection insurance (ADP) preferably from the manufacturer

Do I need a graphics card?

No. Graphics cards are mainly used for playing games.

Can I buy any laptop for my child?

Yes, provided it meets the minimum requirements as detailed above.

What do I buy?

A device that has the minimum requirements as detailed above.



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Can the school advise what make and model of computer to buy?

No, but Cairns High technicians can give examples of suitable devices.
Phone: 4050 3077.

What costs are involved to access the BYOx program?

There is an annual \$200 network enhancement fee. This fee provides network connection, internet access through WiFi connection across the school, access to subject specific software and access to the technicians at the school for initial advice.

Will students be able to borrow laptops from the school?

No.

What if I cannot afford to buy a laptop?

Computer vendors may provide payment plans. Discuss payment options at the point of sale.

What if I cannot afford to pay the connection fee?

Contact the Principal.

How can I afford to pay my outstanding fees and have access for my child to the BYOx program at start of year?

Contact the Principal.

What if I cannot afford to purchase my child a laptop? Will my child be penalised?

No, other tools like pens, exercise books and textbooks will still have a place in the classroom. However, the school aims to prepare students for the world of work which is now more heavily dependent on technology. The curriculum has changed and the laptop is a tool used in teaching and learning. The school strongly recommends to parents/carers that they provide a laptop for students to use at school.

Can the network enhancement fee be pro-rated depending on when my child enrolls at the school?

No. The technicians, maintenance of technology infrastructure, and software are budgeted on an annual basis and this budget cost is reflected in the network enhancement fee.