



CAIRNS
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Bring your own device program (BYOx)

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.

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

Technology is a tool used in a purposeful way to support teaching and learning in the contemporary classroom. Different teachers in different classes will use technology in a range of ways to access, create and assess content. 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 rigid or semi-rigid 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. Short term laptop recharging lockers are available in the Library.

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

The school has developed quality digital resources and students are provided with access to digital and interactive textbooks via ReadCloud. However, students will still have textbooks in some subjects where digital texts 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.

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 \$600 to \$1000. The cost will depend on the device selected.



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What are the minimum requirements for a computer?

Minimum Requirements

- **Laptop (or Tablet with Keyboard) with a minimum of 4GB RAM. If you are in a position to purchase 8GB RAM this is a better option for longevity of the device.**
- **Windows 10 / Mac OSx 10.12.x operating system (or newer)**
- **More than 128Gb total storage (SSD or HDD)(256Gb is better)**
- **Wi-Fi 802.11n/ac or better (5Ghz)**
The term "Dual Band" covers this (most laptops).
 - If "Single Band" make sure it's the 5Ghz radio band.
- **Minimum battery life of 6 hours to cover the school day**
- **Windows 10 S mode is not suitable for our school. It is free to switch out of S mode and laptops MUST BE OUT OF S MODE BEFORE COMING TO SCHOOL. Please see <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/switching-out-of-s-mode-in-windows-10-4f56d9be-99ec-6983-119f-031bfb28a307>**
(Should you experience any difficulties with this process, please contact the supplier of your student laptop.)

Necessary Software

- Microsoft Office 365 supplied free of charge (Including licencing for up to five devices), accessible from the student's Office 365 logon (Webmail).
- Suitable Anti-Virus software
 - Windows 10 has a built in Anti-Virus program which is suitable
 - The Mac OSx does NOT, and an anti-Virus program MUST be installed
 - Most of the free Anti-Virus software should be suitable.

Other items the school recommends parents/carers purchase

- Rigid or Semi-Rigid 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.

What do I buy?

A device that has the minimum requirements as detailed above.

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. The eLearning page on the school web page has links to BYOx portals for several suppliers which met the specifications outlined previously.



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What costs are involved to access the BYOx program?

All resources used by students with BYOx laptops are included in the Student Resource Scheme. Some of the digital resources for student access include:

- Library Online portal – 24/7 access to digital resources and online databases to support research tasks;
- Clickview Online digital video library;
- ReadCloud subscription and eTextbooks including interactive texts for students in Years 7 to 10 for Maths and Humanities; Stile online learning platform for Year 7 to 10 Science; Years 11 to 12 Maths, Science, Humanities, Business, Accounting, Legal Studies and HPE.
- Online learning platforms including Language Perfect, Maths Online and Maths Space for select classes;
- Online databases – Weblinks, Proquest eLibrary, Gale Virtual Reference Library;
- Digital newspapers including the Courier Mail, Cairns Post and foreign language newspapers;
- Range of software for specific curriculum use including Adobe Creative Cloud, AutoCAD, Auralia, Sibelius
- Printing;
- Access to short term replacement device to ensure continuity of learning whilst own laptop is being repaired (by approved application only)

What if I cannot afford to buy a laptop?

- Students experiencing financial hardship can apply for a day loan computer. For further information, please refer to the BYOx Day Loan Program on the eLearning web page.
- Computer vendors may provide payment plans. Discuss payment options at the point of sale.
- Please contact HOD Learning Resources for more information. Email lsell8@eq.edu.au

What if my student laptop requires repairs?

A limited number of day loan laptops are available for students with laptops under repair. Parents/carers need to write a note of explanation to be presented to the Library Help Desk or email to lsell8@eq.edu.au . These devices are available for day loan only for a maximum period of 2 weeks.