



eLearning is a key component in all Northcross classrooms and our vision is that technologies will be integrated appropriately to support authentic, higher order and collaborative learning.

**BYOD (Bring Your Own Device):** we expect all students to bring a personal learning device (should adhere to NX minimum specs—see below) to support their learning in the classroom. These will have access to the internet and the school online environment via the Northcross WiFi.

### Minimum Specifications for Own Device

A device may fall into the following categories:

(1) laptop (2) notebook (3) tablet

Must have at least a 10" screen

Be WiFi capable

Keyboard— can be portable but must be able to type.

Antivirus and operating system updates installed and up to date.

#### We also recommend the following:

WiFi N capable

USB capable

**A BYOD Evening** will be held at Noel Leeming in Albany for Northcross later in the year. A range of devices will be on sale. We will notify families via email, notices to contributing schools and through the NX website.

### What we have found:

As a household your decision will be based on your child's IT knowledge and experience. Every student is unique and one operating system may be preferred to another. We are happy to give advice if required.

DEVICE		
Google Chrome Books	Recommended	Good value for money. Easy to use.
Windows 10 Laptop or Notebook	Recommended	Very versatile. Range of devices available.
Apple Mac Books with latest OS	Worth considering	More expensive if buying new
Apple iPads or Samsung Tablet	Not recommended	Limitations with no keyboard and with some applications
Other Android Tablets	Not recommended	Limited in some applications.

**NOTE:** From our experience we have found that devices less than 3 years old have been more suitable and reliable. Should not be compromised with add-ons or a multitude of games & recreational applications.

### PLEASE NOTE:

- ◆ All students will have secure access to the NX WiFi. Access is monitored and delivered via the school's fast fibre connection and enterprise-class firewall.
- ◆ All students will adhere to the school's Responsible Use Policy, Digital Citizenship criteria and BYOD Mobile Contract
- ◆ In bringing a device students are ultimately responsible for that device on the way to and from school and while at school. We highly recommend having any device covered by the family's contents insurance policy. Northcross is not liable for any damage or loss to a student's device.
- ◆ Northcross reserves the right to restrict access to the NX BYOD or to confiscate a device if a student is deemed to have broken digital protocol or Cyber Use guidelines.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What are the benefits of a student having their own device?**

You know your child the best and what suits their learning but generally, benefits include the following:

- \* Development in digital technologies, digital fluency and computational thinking.
- \* Greater access to research a wide range of information.
- \* Increased access to Web tools that support learning e.g. Mathematics, Write that Essay, Scratch, Google Apps for education

### **Can a student device be left at school?**

Every class will have a lockable storage unit where, on occasion, devices can be kept overnight if required .

### **Will my child be expected to share their device?**

No— a student's device is exclusively for their learning. If they choose to share their device it is ultimately still their responsibility.

### **How much time is spent on a computer/device?**

This can vary from day to day. Breaks are regular as the class programme is broken into learning periods. Many traditional learning activities along with a range of digital technologies are all part of our blended classroom programme.

### **What are the Hardware and Software Considerations?**

#### ***How can my child's computing device connect to the Internet?***

Northcross Intermediate provides a wireless network which students may connect to when using their devices at school.

#### ***Are there suggested accessories?***

Providing a padded bag or protective case is highly recommend. A headset with a microphone will be useful. We also require devices to have a keyboard (either attached or on screen).

#### ***Will there be "charging stations" so my child's electronic device can be recharged?***

Considering today's battery technology, the device's battery charge should be sufficient for lessons which require its use throughout the day. A device should be fully charged at home overnight. Students are able to use their power adapter if they have the teacher's permission.

#### ***What software will be needed on my child's computer?***

No software needs to be purchased as students will have access to the school's Google G Suite cloud based learning platform. Students will be able to use the many productivity tools within G Suite (docs, sheets, slides and more) and have access to online storage.

### **Whose Responsibility Is It?**

#### ***Who pays for the technology brought to school?***

These devices will be purchased by and remain the property of the family.

#### ***Who is responsible for any repairs or updating of personal learning devices?***

Students and/or their families are responsible for their personal learning devices at all times. Northcross Intermediate can arrange technical support for repair, maintenance or help to update personal learning devices – costs per service will be outlined when logging a repair job.

#### ***Who is responsible for damage, loss, or theft of devices your child brings to school?***

Families must stress the responsibilities their children have when bringing their own computing devices to school. Any devices students bring to school are their sole responsibility. Northcross Intermediate takes no responsibility to search for lost or stolen devices nor is there any assumption of financial responsibility by Northcross Intermediate for damaged, lost or stolen personal computing devices.

### ***Will the family need to have Internet access at home?***

It is recommended that families have some form of Internet access at home so a child is able to make full use of the online school resources including the multitude of resources available on the World Wide Web.

### ***Does Northcross suggest any other considerations?***

It would be wise to include a device on a family's contents insurance. If purchasing a new computing device for a child to use at school, we recommend purchasing an extended warranty.

### **Miscellaneous Information**

#### ***Will my child need to have a signed Acceptable Use Policy on file?***

Yes. In order for Northcross Intermediate to supervise student use of the computer network and the Internet, both the [Student Responsible Use Policy](#) and the [Bring Your Own Device - Acceptable Use Policy](#) forms must be signed by all students. Parents/guardians are required to read and sign the agreement. Signing the document indicates that the student and parent/guardian have read and understand the expectations of the school.

#### ***When can my child use the electronic device at school?***

Students will use their learning devices in class as instructed by the teacher. It is expected that students will need to bring electronic devices every day.

Students may use their electronic devices during break periods only when permitted by school personnel, provided that the devices are being used in accordance with our Responsible Use Guidelines. Northcross does have digital free days where devices are not to be used during breaktimes.

#### ***Will my child be expected to use his or her computing device both at school and at home?***

Just as with traditional assignments, some assignments may need to be completed at home.

#### ***Will students be able to print documents from their personal computing devices?***

Students will be able to access printers at school as follows: (1) printing capabilities from school computers, and (2) from their own device if logged onto their school Google account (nxschool.kiwi) through Google print.

All printing is logged and monitored through print costing software. Students have a \$5 quota at the beginning of the year which may require topping up at times.

#### ***Where will my child's work be stored?***

Students will store their work on the school Cloud Platform (their school Google Drive account—@nxschool.kiwi. In so doing, the student will have access to their work wherever they have Internet access.

### **Mobile phones in the classroom:**

Mobile Phones are not considered to be a Personal Learning Device BUT School personnel may, at times, allow students to use mobile phones in classrooms for class activities to access the internet or other applications. At all other times students must adhere to the school rules and guidelines governing cell phone use.

