

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017

**TO: PARENTS OF YEAR 9 STUDENTS**

Dear Parents / Carers,

Next year your student is entering their Senior phase of schooling. One of the differences is Senior students are able to participate in one of the two laptop schemes we have available at the school. Students, as well as teachers, have expressed high levels of satisfaction in having all students with access to a laptop at school and at home, therefore we encourage you to support your student in accessing one of the following options -

**1. Bring Your Own (BYOx) Laptop scheme** is where a student's own laptop is configured to connect to the school's IT system, internet and printers. The cost is \$90 per annum for this service. If students choose to bring their own laptop they will have internet, network and printer access whilst at school through our wireless network. The fee also provides them with limited IT support for school system problems. A replacement device is provided if their BYO device is being repaired, but only for a limited time.

Student laptops should meet our organisational requirements and can be procured from different sources. A number of suppliers offer suitable devices and fully understand our requirements, including after sales service, extended warranty and accidental damage insurance. Links to these suppliers can be found on the SSHS website [www.stanthorshs.eq.edu.au](http://www.stanthorshs.eq.edu.au).

If you are purchasing devices from other suppliers, we recommend student laptops have these minimum specifications—

Standard Laptop Minimum Specifications	
Platform	PC/Mac
Screen size	12 inches or more
Processor	Intel i3 or higher
RAM	4GB or higher
Hard drive	<b>256GB</b> or higher
Operating system	Windows 8 Professional or higher, Mac OSX 10.9 or higher
Wireless	<b>5GHz WiFi</b> (802.11a, 802.11ac, 802.11n)
Ports	2 USB ports, audio in/out, in-built microphone
Battery life	6+ hours
Programs	Microsoft Office ( <b>FREE</b> online at the SSHS website) or Mac equivalent

*Items listed in bold and italics are important considerations when purchasing a device for school.* Student BYOx experiences will be improved by observing the above hard drive size and WiFi recommendations.

High End Laptop Specifications – for subjects including ITN & Graphics	
Platform	PC/Mac
Screen size	12 inches or more
Processor	Intel i5 or higher
RAM	4GB or higher
Hard drive	<b>256GB</b> or higher
Operating system	Windows 8.1 Professional or higher, Mac OSX 10.9 or higher
Wireless	<b>5GHz WiFi</b> (802.11a, 802.11ac, 802.11n)
Ports	2 USB ports, audio in/out, in-built microphone
Battery life	6+ hours
Programs	Microsoft Office ( <b>FREE</b> online at the SSSH website) or Mac equivalent

**2. The Take-home Laptop Scheme** is where students pay \$150 per year to have the use of a laptop provided by the school. These may be 2<sup>nd</sup> hand computers which have been previously used by other students. A basic maintenance service is provided by the school with a replacement device provided whilst it is being repaired. The laptop must be returned at the end of each year.

### Information Evening

To help provide information about the above options, we will be holding an information evening on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November from 3.30pm until 7pm. It will be held at the School Resource Centre and will include displays of laptops from Acer, HP, Harvey Norman and Dell as well as our local supplier Outrite Computers & Gaming. We will also be running two briefings (4.30pm and 6pm) that provide details about both schemes as well as having a question and answer session with our school's IT Technician.

### What to do now?

1. Attend the Information Evening on 23<sup>rd</sup> November.
2. Choose a scheme - BYOx or Take-home.
3. Complete the attached Student Laptop Charter agreement (Option 1 **BYOx** OR Option 2 **Take-home**) and return it to the Student Resource Scheme Office prior to the commencement of classes in 2017. All BYOx devices with returned forms will be linked to the network within the first 2 weeks of school. All Take-home devices with returned forms, will be ready for collection in the first 2 weeks of school.
4. If you return your form after 2018 classes have commenced, you may experience some delay in receiving your chosen service due to the large numbers of students being processed.

For further information regarding the scheme, please contact Melissa Pascoe, A/HOD THB & IT, via email [mpasc36@eq.edu.au](mailto:mpasc36@eq.edu.au) or phone the school directly on 46815888.

Yours faithfully,

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