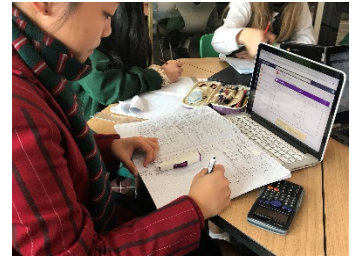




Year 9 2020 Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Programme



Our Y9 - Y13 classes in 2020 will be BYOD classes. Students are strongly encouraged to bring a laptop **every day** to school.

AGHS introduced a BYOD programme several years ago and are pleased to report that the implementation has been very positive. Students in BYOD classes bring their devices to school with them each day and use them primarily in core subjects like English, Maths, Social Studies, Science and some option subjects like Languages – for around 2 - 3 hours of the day.

Ours is a blended e-learning approach. We use a blend of traditional approaches to teaching and learning, as well as using digital technologies to support or facilitate learning. Pen and paper are still used in BYOD classes.

Why implement a BYOD programme?

BYOD, where the device is owned by the student and goes home with them every day, allows for anywhere, anytime learning. We are using Microsoft Office (O365) which allows students to save their work to the 'cloud' so it cannot be lost, and can be accessed from home or any other computer with internet access. There is the opportunity for increased collaboration between students, and further opportunities and new methods for teachers to provide feedback to students. It also provides opportunities to communicate and share learning in a way that will prepare students for the future, including NCEA online examinations.

Eight in ten principals report that digital technologies are having a positive impact on student achievement, according to the latest research results from the Digital Technologies in Schools survey, prepared by Research New Zealand for the 20/20 Trust in 2016/17.

Many of our students already use digital devices outside of school to communicate and learn. We have seen the benefits of integrating these with our school resources so that the potential of these devices can be used to enhance learning further and become an important part of students' learning toolkits.

AGHS Recommended devices for BYOD Year 9 2020

A specification list has been created to assist with choice of a suitable device. This is based on research, advice from industry experts and consultation with other secondary schools in NZ. There are many appropriate devices available and the school is not prescribing a particular device. We do have minimum specifications and these can be taken to local retailers like Harvey Norman, Noel Leeming etc. to assist with correct device choice, or the parent portal on the PB Technologies website can be used. This portal is accessed directly from their website. Parents are not obliged to purchase their devices from any particular vendors, but please consider the after sales service and arrangements for when a device needs repairs.

Do I have to purchase a new device?

No, if you have a device already that meets our minimum specifications, your daughter may use it as their BYOD device – see the minimum specifications below.

Minimum specification for devices:

- Battery life: 6 - 8 hours. Note that battery life will lessen over time. Ensure devices are fully charged at home before the school day
- Keyboard
- Screen size of 13 inches is optimal
- Light enough to be carried around during the day
- Protective case
- 5GHz Wireless capability
- USB Drive
- Built in camera and sound recording
- RAM – 8GB is optimal (Minimum of 4GB)
- Where possible, purchasing devices with SSD drives is preferable as these prove to be more reliable long term. 128GB is recommended for SSDs' to ensure sufficient space for software. Hard Drive should be at least 320GB
- Microsoft Office license – **provided free by AGHS** while at school
- Output capability
- Insurance (AGHS is not responsible for damage or loss of the device)

Along with these we strongly recommend:

- Preferable OS for Windows –Windows 10
- Virus protection –e.g. Microsoft Security Essentials, Windows Defender etc.
- Malware protection, e.g. Malware Bytes etc.

What about families who are unable to access a personal device?

Loan devices are available for day-long loan from our Library. Students can pick these up before school or at interval and return them at the end of the school day.

