



Clare High School

Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Computer Program

Like many schools throughout South Australia, Clare High School has made the decision to fully integrate the use of computing technology into teaching and learning across Year 7 - 12.

Clare High School is committed to providing a current, relevant and dynamic learning environment that challenges students to perform to their personal best.

Along with the Department of Education and Childhood Development (DECD), Clare High School aims to further enhance teaching and learning and improve outcomes in literacy, numeracy, sciences through the direct integration of ICT.

It is a priority for Clare High School to have our students actively using technology to assist and advance their learning. Our Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) program, which started in 2014, has demonstrated significant positive and effective learning outcomes for our students. We feel with our continual development and focus on ICT that this capacity will only continue to build.

Since the beginning of 2014, we now believe it is vital that all students from year 7-12 bring their own technology to school.

This is an opportunity to provide all students access to their devices in a 24/7 capacity enabling them to expand the learning environment beyond the walls of the classroom. This gives students the capability to collaborate, share information and experiences and take control of their learning in ways not previously possible.

Our BYOT initiative provides every student access to their own device in a wireless environment at the school allowing teachers to integrate technology into their curriculum. We are enthusiastic to promote personalised learning, allowing students to progress at their own pace and ability levels, increasing independence and self-initiated learning.

Our aim is to motivate students to learn by immersing them in 21st Century Technology and enabling them to be better equipped for post school opportunities.

Which device is suitable for my child?

A very common question is "What should my child bring?"

We have intentionally refrained from restricting our students to use any one type of device or platform whilst they are at school. Every student has their own learning needs and requirements from technology. It is also important that they are able to adjust to using a multitude of different technologies and platforms. 'Young people need to develop flexibility and adaptability. A platform-agnostic approach is more likely to develop the kinds of resourceful thinking that will enable them to make use of the continually evolving and changing digital capabilities'²

It is a priority for us that our students are able to utilise the same technology they use at home, at school. We strongly believe that students who use their own device for various activities outside of school, should not also have to purchase a school device that may be unsuitable for their extra hobbies & pursuits.

We have produced this booklet to help assist you on the types of technology available, and to provide you with an indication of the various devices that may be suitable for your child whilst they are at school. The technology each student uses should best reflect their individual learning needs.

Over the last few years, we have found that all students have a more positive learning experience if they are able to use a physical keyboard, (including attachments for tablet computers). Having a keyboard allows our students to easily use their device for a diverse range of content creation activities.

It's also important to be aware that some devices do not support Flash in their web browsers. Many educational resources and web based applications are still reliant on using the flash platform. As a result some devices can restrict students access to these flash based activities. The details of these devices will be provided throughout this booklet.



WINDOWS LAPTOP - Price Guide - \$380 to \$2500



A high level of compatibility, very effective within a school based environment.
Very common operating system, huge range of software available.



Cheap models can be very fragile. Important to take the build quality into account when purchasing.

Battery life for some models can be insufficient to last a school day.

As Windows is a common operating system, these laptops can be more prevalent to malware than other systems.

WINDOWS ULTRABOOK - Price Guide - \$380 to \$2000



(as above) A high level of compatibility, very effective within a school based environment.

Hard drives are often solid state which are more durable and faster for the school environment.

Very light and portable, battery life is usually very high.

Very common operating system, huge range of software available.



May not have as powerful processor and memory as the larger windows laptops.

Often has less storage space than regular laptop due to its smaller size

MACBOOK PRO/ MACBOOK AIR LAPTOP - Price Guide - \$1100 to \$2800



Powerful computers that are well design for portability and battery life.
Are now highly compatible with Windows Software and interface.



Can be expensive

Don't offer the same touch screen capabilities of other laptops

CHROMEBOOK - Price Guide - \$300 to \$700



Very cost effective
Numerous apps available for the app store.
Can utilise the whole google docs suite very effectively.



Can be hard to integrate with other devices, has some compatibility issues at time

Requires a constant unfiltered internet connection to operate most effectively. (difficult for schools).

Can be limiting for users using demanding operations such as editing film etc.



Devices



Apple iPad - Approx. Price Guide -\$400 to \$1100

- + Students are familiar with iOS, as it is used commonly across iPhones, iPods. Excellent for internet browsing and viewing content
- No compatibility with Flash, which can affect access to some web resources.
No USB support
Sharing and printing content is quite difficult within the school environment.

The Apple iPad, through the app store is able to provide students with access to a huge variety of software. iPads are not so capable when it comes to content creation, as a result it's highly recommended to have a separate keyboard available.

ANDROID TABLET - Approx. Price Guide -\$300 to \$1000

- + Another popular type of Tablet, students are familiar with the android interface.
Huge selection of apps available through the Google Play store.
- Often there is no support for USB storage
Flash compatibility can be an issue, and requires extra software to get it operational.
Requires a constant unfiltered internet connection to operate most effectively (difficult for schools) to access the Play Store and Google Apps.



Androids offer an excellent alternative to the Apple iPad. They are customisable and offer a greater level of flexibility. We highly recommend that an external separate keyboard is purchased with an android tablet to students in maximising its capabilities.

MICROSOFT SURFACE RT & PRO- Approx. Price Guide -\$350 to \$1000

- + Incorporates many features of a Windows laptop into a tablet.
Surface Professionals are able to incorporate desktop capabilities into a tablet.
Runs and is shipped with a full version of MS Office
- All software must be installed from the Windows store if it is a Surface RT
The Surface ships with a number of different keyboard attachment options.
It is recommended to use the "Type" cover as it is far easier to use.



Surface tablets are close to being a laptop replacement. They operate on Windows 8-8.1 based operating system (Surface RT's use a modified version). They run the MS Office suite effectively and integrate well within a school network environment. The more expensive models offer some very powerful processing capabilities.

MODERN PC (2 in 1 Device)- Approx. Price Guide -\$500 to \$2000

- + Hinge allows transferable usage as either a laptop or tablet. Some styles have a removable keyboard, others fold onto themselves.
Operate well within a school environment and run the MS Office suite.
Lightweight and very portable
- Some models can lack performance when compared to a full Windows ultrabook or laptop.



Modern PC devices are becoming more common with most major PC retailers now manufacturing a variety of options with decent specifications. Their key benefit is their amazing portability and adaptability.





FAQ - Frequently

1. Is my child required to bring a mobile ICT device to school?

From 2014, students in Years 7-12 have been encouraged to bring ICT devices to school for learning. We believe our Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) program has demonstrated significant positive and effective learning outcomes for our students. We feel with our continual development and focus on ICT that this capacity will only continue to build, and it is now a requirement that all Clare High School students bring their own mobile ICT device to school.

2. What sort of technology is suitable for my child?

We believe that students should use the device with which they are most comfortable and with which learning will be most effective. Recognising the importance of choices, we are not recommending specific brands and models of ICT devices. We have prepared a list of devices in this document, which outlines the strengths and weaknesses of various devices for the learning activities in which the students will be engaged.

3. What about smart-phones?

Our Electronic Device Policy stipulates that the use of smart phones as a learning tool is at the discretion of the teacher. However, a smartphone has a number of limited capabilities that restrict it from being utilised as a suitable BYOT device. Students are not permitted to use 3G/4G cellular data capabilities of a smart phone to use the internet. This is because it bypasses the mandated departmental filtering system.

4. What about the physical safety of the devices at school?

Each student is responsible for their own property whilst at school. It's important that students have protective cases for their devices to protect them in transit from class to class.

Every student has a secure locker allocated to them. This allows them to have their device locked away at all times when it is not being used.

Software Requirements

Web Browser : As a school we prefer Chrome

As an educational site, our students are provided with free access to Office 365, which includes the full range of Microsoft Office products including MS Word, MS Powerpoint, MS Excel, MS Publisher and others.

Office 365 is accessible both at school and at home and it can be installed onto Windows and Apple laptop devices. It is highly recommended that all students utilise this offer.

Additionally, other Word Processing software such as Pages for iPad and Google Documents for both Android and Chromebooks, and Presentation Software such as Keynote and Google Presentations are all suitable.

Other tools/apps may be occasionally requested by teachers. Students will normally be given a number of days' notice and the facility to install these apps.

Students completing subjects that require specialized software will always have access to a desktop computer at school to complete their required course work.

Parents are advised to make their own arrangements regarding insurance and cover for accidental damage. Clare High School will not take responsibility for accidental damage to student property, nor do our insurance policies cover it. It is our priority to continually refine our practices for the security of devices at school.

5. Won't this make my child's schoolbag heavier?

We are particularly aware of the importance of bag weight, in particular for our younger students. We provide individual lockable storage at school for each student. It is important that they use this storage as their base for each school day.

6. Will the students' use of the internet be monitored at school?

The Department of Education & Child Development mandates that all web browsing on a school site must be monitored through a departmental approved filtering system. The entire browsing history of our students is logged and can be tracked. Parents need to be aware that if they provide their child with a device that has 3G/4G internet capabilities, the school is unable to filter, log and monitor the student's usage. This will also void the ICT acceptable use agreement.



Asked Questions

7. Will students be able to recharge their device during the day?

We discourage our students from planning to charge their device at school; power cords/chargers can be a OHS&W hazard. Classrooms also do not have the facility to charge numerous devices. For this reason, battery life is key in choosing the right technology for your child. Students will need to manage the charging their device overnight.

8. What policies and structures will guide the students' use of ICT?

Clare High School has an Electronic Device Acceptable Use Agreement that guides students' use of ICT within the school environment. It is designed to ensure that potential issues with these devices can be clearly identified. We need to ensure that the benefits of electronic devices (including mobile phones) can continue to be enjoyed and utilised by our students without interfering or hindering their personal wellbeing, or the education process.

9. What if my child doesn't bring their own technology? Will they be disadvantaged?

From 2015, all students in Years 7-12 are required to bring their own technology to school. In classes where specialist software is required (Design & Technologies, Media etc), the School will continue to provide computers for student usage. In the event of an emergency, students should contact one of the ICT support team.



Minimum Hardware Requirements

When purchasing a new device please consider the minimum recommended specifications that will allow adequate functioning:

Battery – Battery performance should initially exceed a school day as, over time, performance will decline

Memory (RAM) – 4 GB

Storage – 128 GB (SSD Storage is preferred over HDD)

Devices with the above specs will usually also have an adequate processor

Whilst a low price (below \$400) can be appealing, please be aware that some devices, such as the HP Stream, do not have sufficient power or storage to install or operate some required software.





Why purchase through the Clare High School BYOT portal?

Access to education pricing

Through our partnership with Learning with Technologies and Acer Computing Australia, Clare High School's BYOT purchase portal provides parents with access to discounted education pricing with commercial grade warranty service.

School selected unit ensures your child has the right unit for their education

Clare HS has worked with our preferred suppliers to select a range of devices to suit our school environment.

Tablets make great research and basic creativity tools whereas notebooks can provide the ability to generate and create full documents.

All day batteries, fast processors, tough exteriors, and scratch resistant glass screens - these attributes are what children need in school environments.

Quick turnaround service and loan devices allow students to keep learning

Under the Clare HS BYOT Service Level Agreement (SLA) school technicians are able to provide first level support to students.

A loan device and assistance with warranty services are available to students with devices purchased through the Clare HS BYOT program.

BYOT Comparison Table for ACER Travelmate P2 Laptop

	BYOT Portal	Retail
Warranty	3 Years On Site Warranty (NBD within 50km of Approved Service Provider)	1 Year Mail in Warranty with no set Service Level Agreement
Wireless	Commercial grade adaptor	Home grade adaptor



BYOT Purchase Portal

Extended Warranty, Insurance and Out of Warranty repairs provide peace of mind

Many retail warranties are Return to Base and generally takes a minimum of 2 weeks from initiation to completion.

3 year 'Next Business Day' onsite warranty means that parents don't have to take their child's broken unit into a shop or repair agent.

Education grade fixed priced servicing for most out of warranty repairs.

To ensure laptops are maintained in good working order and to maximise the time they are spent in the students hands (not the technicians), any required servicing or repair is completed onsite by a registered repair agent. This also includes home visits for any repairs or servicing being required during the school holiday periods.

All BYO devices must be covered by parent / caregiver insurance. The school provides lockable storage to secure devices. Students must utilise these facilities to store BYO devices securely and to meet minimum insurance policy coverage. The school takes no responsibility for client owned devices on campus or in transit to and from the school.

In addition to purchasing the Acer Tablet/Laptop, Clare HS has arranged important features to protect and prolong the life of the device.

These include:

- Accidental Damage Protection Insurance - Acer 3 year insurance to cover against accidental damage¹
- Accidental Loss and Theft Protection Insurance - Acer 3 year insurance to cover against stolen or accidentally lost devices¹

These additional features are optional and are not included in the advertised price of the individual device. You are welcome to investigate insuring your tablet/laptop through your home and contents insurance.¹

Benefits of the Acer insurance policies include:

- Onsite repairs
- Rapid turnaround
- Management of relevant paperwork completed by the school
- Support outside of school hours (i.e. on school holidays)

For any device not insured through Acer, families are responsible for their own management of any damages and any associated costs. They will need to deal directly with their own insurance provider (if the device is insured) and/or repairer.¹



Payment

Parents are able to pay safely through PayPal, direct deposit or credit card.

Financing

There are also financing options available for parents through Flexirent.

Accessing the portal

The Clare HS BYOT Online Purchase Portal can be accessed by navigating to the Clare High School website:

<http://clarehs.sa.edu.au>

Follow the navigation links to the BYOT Purchase Portal

Please note all devices and prices currently listed on the portal are subject to change.

Further information

If you require any assistance, or further information, there are two BYOT information evenings scheduled:

Tuesday 8th August, 2017 – 6 pm

Monday 4th September, 2017 – 6 pm

Alternatively, please also contact the school:

Clare High School ICT Department
Luke Mensforth / Soraya Papesch / Vicki Couch
(08) 8842 2788

Clare High School has no affiliation with and does not recommend any particular insurance provider. Please ensure that you read and understand all Product Disclosure Statements relating to any insurance products.

Thanks to Inaburra School, NSW for their assistance in sharing their BYOT documentation and supporting us to implement our programs successfully.