BYOx Laptop Program – Purchase Advice

What is this document?

Indooroopilly State High School will operate a 1:1 BYO laptop program from late 2015. For parents who are considering the purchase of a device for this program, this document provides some general advice as to items to consider and questions to ask of vendors. The advice provided is based on information the school currently has about its own managed laptop fleet.

Why do we have a 1:1 Laptop Program?

Teachers already integrate ICT into curriculum programs, and the individual student laptop makes ICT integration possible at anytime, anywhere in the school and at home. Indooroopilly High has been a full 1:1 laptop school from mid 2013 using school owned devices.

Advice on models, brands and vendors.

The school does not advise on brands, models or vendors. We do provide minimum specifications (see latest version on our website). We also provide non mandatory portals where parents may choose to purchase a device.

Apart from the laptop, what other physical items should I purchase?

These items are highly recommended:

- Protective Case (hard case)
- Bluetooth (wireless) mouse
- External USB hard drive (for backup)

What other services should I consider purchase of?

- Accidental Damage Coverage
  
  Ensure that statutory warranty or purchased warranty covers expected life of device

What questions should I ask at purchase?

- How long the device will take to repair if broken?
- Where does the device need to be sent for repair?
- What does the warranty cover and what does it not cover (eg Liquid spill)?
- Do you offer accidental damage cover?
  
  - what are the terms?
  - what is accidental damage?
  - what is the excess?

Having the answers to these in writing would be a good idea.
Vendor Portals

To provide convenience for parents we have engaged with vendors who currently supply schools to prepare Indooroopilly SHS specific portals for BYO device purchase. These portals offer a variety of brands and models of BYO device, accessories and services (insurance/damage cover etc).

The provision of these portals are not an endorsement of recommendation of the brands, models or services offered.

Parents using the portals should satisfy themselves that the devices or services offered meet their needs and the needs of their child. The school will not engage with any disputes between the portal vendors and parents.

Disaster Planning

It is strongly suggested that a plan for device malfunction/failure/breakage/loss or theft be considered.

These questions may assist in preparing:

- **Do I have a backup?**
  If your device fails, and the hard drive is not recoverable, how long ago was the latest backup of your data? The answer should be no longer than one day ago.

- **Do I have an operating System Recovery process?**
  Both Windows and Mac have operating system recovery processes that will restore the operating system in the case of a major failure. Preparing your recovery disks should be your **first** action once your new computer is set up.

- **Is my device covered for accidental damage?**
  It is possible your home insurance may cover it while at home – you will need to check. What cover does it have outside home and school? What is the process for a claim and how long will it take?

- **What are the risks if my device is lost or stolen?**
  What personal data is on the device that could be damaging if the device is stolen or lost? Be careful about what is stored on the device – especially personal information/photos etc.

- **Is my device covered for loss and theft?**
  As with the damage question, what cover exists for these possibilities, what police reports and documents would be needed by your insurer in the case of loss or theft?