

What is Bring Your Own Device? (BYOD)

A Bring Your Own Device refers to students bringing a personally owned mobile device to school for the purpose of learning.

All year 7-12 RSA students will be required to bring a device to school in 2017.

- ❖ Year 7 - 9 RSA students will be required to bring an iPad. Very specific applications are required for learning with an iPad, therefore it may not be substituted for another type of device.
- ❖ We **recommend** that Year 10, 11 and 12 RSA students bring a laptop that meets the **Minimum Device Specification as set out below**.
- ❖ For students who regularly travel between venues during school hours, parents/guardians should consider weight and durability when selecting specific devices. A strong protective case/carry bag will be important.

Minimum Specifications

iPad

- ❖ Generation 4
- ❖ Wi-Fi
- ❖ 32GB

Laptop

- ❖ Processor between i3 or i5
- ❖ Min 4GB ram
- ❖ 11" -15" screen
- ❖ Min 120GB hard drive
- ❖ Windows 8.1 or later

Why BYOD at RSC?

Today's students are IT savvy children who have never known life without a computer or the internet. They study, work, write and interact with each other in ways different from the previous generation.

Our community is very excited about how BYOD will support classroom learning next year. We are very fortunate that the School Council has made a significant and substantial financial contribution of more than \$400,000 given that the Federal Government is no longer supporting computers for schools. This will provide cutting edge technology that supports fast and reliable access to technically sophisticated school resources. The deployment of latest technologies in Wi-Fi networking, increased coverage and load balancing will ensure an overall improved user experience across both the East and West Campus.

New internet services will provide greater bandwidth performance to allow instant access to the latest web content and services. In addition, the establishment of filtering services ensures only suitable content is made available to students. The latest firewall, user identifications, download caching, load balancing and reporting all assist in ensuring the safety of student data and content delivery.

A key component to the BYOD is the addition of a Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI). In providing a VDI solution, we are able to ensure students have full access to the digital curriculum components needed to support teaching and learning structures in place at Rowville Secondary College. VDI will allow students to access a virtual desktop environment at school or from home, with all required applications and structured content delivery.

Advantages to a BYOD

- ❖ Personal devices assist with individualising the learning in our classrooms.
- ❖ Technology enables rich, authentic learning tasks that are otherwise impossible.
- ❖ Technology breaks down classroom walls and takes learning anywhere across the world.
- ❖ Through the use of different apps/software, students are able to choose the type of product they construct to demonstrate their meaning.
- ❖ The abundance of apps/software and access to information on any topic allows students to pursue areas they are interested in learning about.
- ❖ Notes can be kept in one spot, commented on and available anywhere.
- ❖ Devices are increasingly light and portable and easily carried in a bag from class to class.

- ❖ Heavy schoolbooks may largely be replaced by e-books.
- ❖ Documents and tasks can be uploaded and downloaded by students and teachers, both at school and at home.
- ❖ Texts and documents can be annotated and commented on by multiple students and teachers.
- ❖ The device will aid students in organising their time and studies by providing ready access to email, homework and calendars.
- ❖ Personally owned devices are taken much better care of by students, improving user experience and promoting individual responsibility.

What changes will there be that support our BYOD?

- ❖ The booklist will have both traditional text-books and e-books options for students. Details on how to purchase e-books will be distributed to families early in term 4.
- ❖ All students will have access to a Virtual Desktop Infrastructure, which gives access to a student's desktop immediately at school and remotely from home.
- ❖ All students will have access to High Speed Broadband Access whilst at school
- ❖ A Filtering Service that meets DET Standards will assist with safe and acceptable internet use whilst at school.

Through dedicated project teams and Department of Education and Training (DET) support and services, Rowville Secondary College has invested significant time and money in the development of a BYOD program. This investment will continue to provide ongoing support to teachers; students and parents by ensuring structures are in place to improve student learning outcomes.

Technical Components

Wireless (Wi-Fi) network.	Aruba 802.11AC
Vertel internet service.	100MB internet connection
Content filtering service.	NetBoxBlue filtering for internet delivery and firewall
Virtual Desktop Infrastructure.	Virtual (Windows) desktop for every student
Purchasing portal.	Online purchasing site for parents/BYOD devices

What do parents/guardians need to prepare for 2017?

- ❖ Ensure your child has a suitable device that meets the required minimum specifications for their year level and program.
- ❖ Rowville Secondary College will be providing a Purchasing Portal to allow parents to purchase BYOD approved devices in support of the infrastructure standards now made available at the college. Benefits for parents include extensively negotiated competitive pricing, ease of knowing your child has the right device for the enrolled programs with consultative support from the onsite technical support team and insurance and warranty options. Parents will be notified when this Portal is opened (late in term 3).
- ❖ Parents are strongly encouraged to consider insurance and warranty cover for BYODs, as they are not covered by the school. Devices purchased through the Purchase Portal will have warranty and insurance options.
- ❖ Ensure your child has a suitable protective case and/or carry bag for their device.
- ❖ Purchase either E-books or textbooks. Details about how and where to do this will be given to parents early in term 4.
- ❖ School fees will include an \$80 IT levy. This is an extremely important contribution to the school that will assist to offset the infrastructure and personnel costs of a viable BYOD that supports student learning.
- ❖ Assist your child to know and understand the RSC Learning Protocols and how to be a safe, responsible and ethical user.

We recognize that the purchase of a device is a major decision and a significant expense. A good quality device may last a number of years and viewed over the long term, the expense is considerably less. The purpose of identifying minimum specifications is to allow families to utilise suitable devices that they already own.

The Purchase Portal that will be available from the school website has extensively negotiated competitively priced devices at a range of price points.

Students will only require a maximum of 2 devices over the 6 years of their Secondary education.

RSC has developed an Equity Policy designed to assist families experiencing financial difficulties. Please contact the College for further details.

Please see the RSC website www.rowvillesc.vic.edu.au for further information, including Frequently Asked Questions.