Information for Students Entering Grade 7 in 2017
Re: Bring Your Own Device

June 2016

Dear Parents /Guardians,

As the year progresses we will continue to provide Grade 6 families with information regarding the transition from primary to secondary school. The dates for the Grade 7 Parent Information Evening and Student Orientation Events are currently being finalised. Further details will be provided later next term. In the interim, we have received some initial enquiries from parents about the need for students to have their own netbook or device for next year.

- If you are starting to think about obtaining a device details of the College’s Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program are outlined below for your reference.

- Additional detail on the BYOD program and suitable student devices will be provided at the Grade 7 Parent Information Evening which is usually held in late October.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)
All secondary students require a laptop device, either Windows or Mac, for use both at school and at home. Sacred Heart College has a virtual desktop (Citrix) which enables all students and staff to use any device on the College’s network. The power of the device is not critical as the actual device does little computing apart from providing a keyboard and screen, the desktop and hardware is provided by our server infrastructure. The College will provide students with an Office 365 account, the Citrix receiver and access to the College Wi-Fi system and Internet service.

Students require a laptop device to access digital text books and a wide variety of reference material and to access our Learning Management System known as Josie. Through Josie students are able to:
- complete work in class
- communicate with, and submit work to teachers
- receive teacher comments on work completed, and review their marks
- develop their own ePortfolio where they can store and showcase their work
- establish an individual style for their work
- access timetables, calendars and due dates and effectively manage their workload
- access the class page which includes class tasks, details of specific class events
- receive notifications of work required, upcoming events and class news,

General recommendations for laptop devices are as follows:
~ A Netbook with a minimum screen size of 11 inches (28cm)
~ A Laptop with a Maximum size of 15 inches (38 cm)
~ Windows 8.1 or 10 (If using a windows laptop)
~ Laptop bag
Please note: iPad and tablet devices are not supported by the Sacred Heart College BYOD program.

**Repairs:**
Although we can provide advice on hardware issues, the College ICT department is not able to repair student owned equipment beyond connecting the device to our network. If your device needs to be repaired the College can arrange for hire of a College owned netbook from the ICT department. When considering the purchase of a device it is worth looking into any warranty offered by the various suppliers. In some cases, repairs under warranty are completed in Hobart whilst others will send the device back to the overseas manufacturer for repair.

**Looking After Devices:**
The College encourages parents to insure the device under their home and contents insurance policy or take out a personal effects policy for the device. The College is not liable for loss or damage of any student owned equipment that is used as part of our BYOD initiative at the College or offsite. Netbook bags can provide some protection for devices. All secondary students also need to provide their own padlock or combination lock to ensure all their belongings are safely secured in their locker. Valuable items, including netbooks, should not be left in lockers overnight.

Our ICT Manager, Mr Stuart Brinsmead can be contacted by phone on 6279-4090 or via email at stuart.brinsmead@shc.tas.edu.au should you have any questions regarding suitable devices.

We will send home more detail about the Grade 7 Parent Information Evening and next year’s Grade 7 Orientation Day as soon as we have confirmed the dates.

Yours sincerely,

Craig Deayton
Principal