Why BYOD?

Most of our students are already using digital devices to communicate and learn. We are now making use of these skills and resources within the school, so that the potential of those devices can be used to further enhance learning.

Some of the benefits that can be enjoyed with e-Learning:

- Students are more motivated and focused on their work.
- They can instantly share their work with peers, parents and teachers, to gain immediate feedback and advice to improve.
- The link between home and school can be more seamless.
- The internet provides a huge number of resources which are invaluable in the learning process.
- Students are prepared for a world which is increasingly utilising technology to work and communicate.

What this means for your child

- Students are expected to bring their own device to assist in their learning.
- Students will be allowed to take and store many of their notes on their device.
- Students will have access to the internet via the school WiFi for research, provided they have agreed to our terms and conditions and that it is at the class teacher's discretion.
- Where possible, students will be able to present and/or submit their assessments digitally.
- It is expected that all students will bring their own device to school.
- If you would like your child to have a device and need assistance in financing this, please contact our Executive Officer, Mrs Strachan.

e-Learning resources

Technology is constantly evolving. Each teacher will find creative ways of using alternative software, websites and other resources. Therefore the way these resources are used will change over time and will vary from classs to class.

Mahurangi College is a Google Apps for Education school. Every student enrolled will receive a free Google account with unlimited space. This will allow students to create, modify and store their content online. These accounts will be managed by Mahurangi College and will be available 24/7 from any device with an internet connection
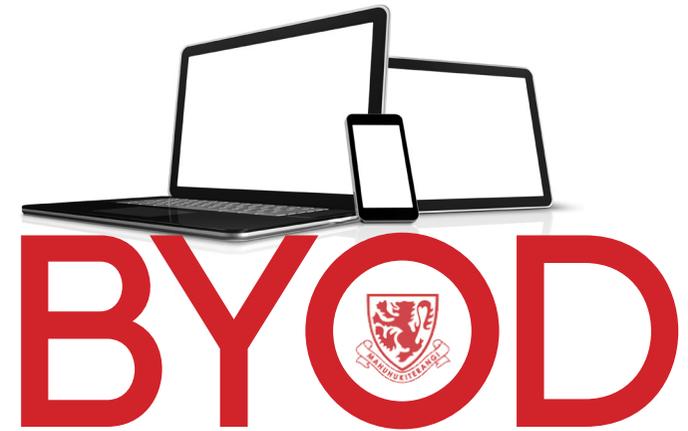

The eLearning google site is our Learning Management System which allows teachers to make course work available to students via the internet (at home and at school).

This forms a central point for students to access course notes, assessments and other material the teacher would like them to reference.

Used by the staff, Kamar is the school's Student Management System, which is used to track attendance, contact details and student grades. It can also be used to contact parents directly, track academic and sporting achievement or behaviour, and produce reports.

BYOD
Bring Your Own Device
MAHURANGI COLLEGE

From the start of 2018 it is expected that all Mahurangi College students will bring their own laptop or tablet to school.

For more information see the school website:
www.mahurangi.school.nz

What device?

Year 7,8 & 9:
Suitable for maximising learning - recommended

- Any Wi-Fi capable Laptop/Notebook less than 3 years old (Eg. Pavilion, Acer Aspire, Toshiba Satellite, Apple Mac Book, Levona)
- Memory of 4 GB or more
- Screen Size - Minimum of 11.6 inches
- Be compact and portable to be carried around daily

Adequate, but with limited Google functionality

- Wi-Fi capable tablets with detachable keyboards (Eg. iPads, Android tablets)
- Screen size - minimum of 7.9 inhes

Note: Small hand held devices such as iPods or Phones are NOT regarded as a suitable device as it does not meet the minimum screen size stipulated above.

Years 10, 11, 12 & 13:
- A laptop with an attached keyboard and operating system (The operating system can be either Windows, MacOS or Chrome OS)
- Have Google Chrome web browser installed
- Sufficient battery life to last at least 6 hours on a single charge
- Be compact and portable to be carried around daily

Specific learning area recommendations

It is a good idea to think about upgrades if your child is considering taking these subjects to a Year 13 level.

Some learning areas may require higher specification devices. Please check the schools website for these recommendations.

Considerations

- The size, durability and the protective case of the device should be considered in terms of the weight this will add to a school bag.
- Length of battery life, as charging lockers will NOT be available for use during the school day. Therefore, battery life will need to extend through class times.

Care and security

The care for and security of the device is wholly the student's responsibility. Mis-handling of portable devices is the largest cause of problems. Most devices will come with care guidelines which we advise users to read.

The following are conditions that we recommend.

- Personal insurance policies to cover the device for theft and damage.
- Best practice is also to keep a record at home of the serial number of each device.
- Portable devices should be protected by a user-name and password. This should not be disclosed to other students.
- Students should have a good protective case on their devices and protective bag to carry them in.
- Anti-virus software is essential to prevent the spreading of malware, and should be kept up-to-date at all times.
- Avoid storing devices at the bottom of your school bag. Pressure from books can easily cause damage.
- Do not store anything additional within the device's sleeve (e.g. cords or disks), as they may damage the screen.
- Laptops should never be lifted by the screen. This stresses the hinge mechanism, which also carries power to the screen.
- To prevent theft, never leave a device unattended at school, in the playground, in a car or in any exposed area.
- There are a limited number of device lockers available for $10 per term. (See Ms Merrick).

Keeping safe online

Mahurangi College believes open communication between parents, teachers and students is the best way to keep students safe.

Students will often share concerns with each other online. It is important that they tell a teacher and/or parent/caregiver when they are feeling uncomfortable or threatened online.

If you have any concerns about internet safety contact the school or visit *http://www.netsafe.org.nz*

Restrictions

- Devices are to be used for educational purposes only.
- Students are encouraged to take a break from devices at interval and lunch, unless catching up on work.
- The school is able to monitor and filter usage to ensure the safety and appropriate use of internet and other resources by students.
- All use of devices will be at the discretion of the class teacher.
- Inappropriate use may result in confiscation or disciplinary action as deemed appropriate.
- All internet access MUST go through the school WiFi. This will be monitored for inappropriate or excessive use.
- All students will take part in a digital citizenship programme to make them aware of digital etiquette and the dangers of inappropriate use of digital information and social networking.
- Students need to make it a habit to charge their device overnight so they bring it to school fully charged. No charging facility will be available at school.

Frequently asked questions

What if my child does not have a device?
Desktop computers are available in Computer labs & library around the college.

How regularly will my child use their device in class?

This will obviously differ from class to class and teacher to teacher. Some subjects lend themselves to using a device more naturally than others. Our expectation is that platforms like our Learning Management System will contain notes/resources and be updated regularly for students.

Does Mahurangi College provide support for devices?

We are unable to provide support for student owned devices from our ICT helpdesk. However, we have a student support team to provide advice and some assistance during lunch hour.
Purchasing a device with a warranty and from a reputable seller will ensure you have support from them for any issues.

Will the school be operating a lease programme?

Yes, we will be operating a lease programme of iPads. Preference will be given to those with hardship issues.
Contact: *exec@mahurangi.school.nz*