Somerset College Student Bring Your Own Device Policy

Statement
The following policy clearly sets out the expectations and conditions in which students can bring and use their own devices. This policy is to be read in conjunction with the Somerset College Acceptable and Responsible Use of Information Technologies Policy (as found in the diary).

Principles
All users have a responsibility to ensure that any use of devices within the Somerset College’s digital environment is appropriate, acceptable, and does not jeopardise the integrity and good name of the College or the security and functionality of the system.

Definition
ICTs includes but is not limited to computer devices, mobile devices including mobile phones, cameras, email, the Internet, removable hard drives, iPods, iPads, tablets, USBs, online programs and software.

Online environments and online communication includes but is not limited to the College’s Administration System, the College’s network, the portal, email, wikis, blogs and other web based and online systems including the Internet.

Implementation
This policy applies to students from Years 6 to 12 who are given permission to bring their own device for use in the classroom. Outside these year levels, exceptions are to be made only for specific learning purposes and permission must be sought from both the Head of Junior School and Dean of Information Technologies in writing.

Students and parents acknowledge that they accept and agree to abide by the principles of this policy and the Responsible and Acceptable Use Policy, in exchange for permission to bring and use their own device at the College. The College requires the all technology will be used in an appropriate and ethical manner. Students and parents as part of the agreement accept that the College reserves the right to rescind the permission for a student to bring a device into the College environment if their use of this device does not adhere to the College’s expectations, as stated in these policies. A copy of the most recent version of this policy is available online. This policy may be updated throughout the year.

Somerset College takes all reasonable measures to ensure that we provide a safe digital environment that supports quality teaching and learning and supports users bringing in their own devices. The user is responsible for ensuring that their device works reliably and accept that the use of the device is not to be a hindrance to the teaching and the learning at the College in any way. While the Information Technology department is available to students for advice and initial assistance, students and parents must accept that the responsibility for the support and service for the device rests with them and the College has no responsibility for
this. It is recommended that devices brought to school are insured and this is the responsibility of the parents. This may involve specifying the device in the insurance policy and ensuring they are covered for outside the home. Parents may also wish to take out Accidental Damage Protection. Device tracking software, such as Prey, is recommended.

**Bring Your Own Device Use Agreement**

As a member of Somerset College, I agree to the following as a condition for being allowed to bring and use my own ICT devices at the College. The use of these devices confirms the acceptance of the following:

1. I accept that the primary use of ICTs is for educational purposes and that my devices are to be used by me.
2. I accept that I am responsible for the security and safety of my device and any use of it. I will keep it with me or store it securely at all times.
3. I have anti-virus software installed, have a full scan and the definitions are up-to-date. I will ensure this is maintained. I will ensure I have no malicious software installed on my device. I understand that failure to do any of the above may result in my onboarding the College network being denied and it is my responsibility to ensure I meet these requirements.
4. I accept and acknowledge that it is my responsibility to understand how to use my device in a competent manner and that the use of it will not detract in any way from the teaching and learning. While the College will be proactive in educating about information technologies, the freedom to choose and bring my own device means that I must understand and be able to use the specific device and its platform.
5. I accept that Somerset College has a right to inspect my device and its data and monitor its activity.
6. I accept that the use of social networking sites are restricted within the College and access is at the discretion of the Dean of Information Technologies.
7. I will not attempt to create any peer to peer network, including sharing Internet access from my mobile phone or 3G device to bypass the College’s Internet. I accept that all use of the Internet whilst in the College grounds on any devices, including laptops, mobile devices and mobile phones is to be via the College provided wireless and Internet.
8. I accept that I am responsible for the purchase and installation of all software on my device and that all software is appropriate and licensed. I understand I must have a modern browser installed as per the minimum specifications for BYOD.
9. I understand if I am in Years 6 to 12 I will be allowed to connect my device to the College’s wireless and Internet. I must authenticate with my username and password prior to any session where I use the Internet and I will be allowed access on a Student BYOD vlan. Any application to connect to the wireless or Internet by students outside these year levels must be in writing from parents to the Dean of Information Technologies, stating the educational reason for why an exemption is requested and approval is at the College’s discretion.
10. I understand that the College only allows wireless access through certain frequencies in order to control the quality of wireless access for all and that some older devices may not be able to connect. Details of what frequencies are accepted are found on the Information Technology page in the portal.

11. I understand that the responsibility for the storage and backup of my files on my device rests with me.

12. I accept that the College does not provide the facility for me to charge my device during the day. I therefore am responsible for ensuring that my device has sufficient battery to last through a school day and that I take responsibility for ensuring that it is fully charged ready for each day.

13. I accept that I will use the Internet responsibly and consider others in the community and my impact on the shared bandwidth. This includes not using the College Internet to download and install large files and software updates, nor running background services that use the Internet. I understand that all my use of the Internet is monitored and use that shows a blatant misuse of the resource and a disregard for the Responsible and Acceptable Use Policy may result in sanctions or my access to the Internet being limited.

14. I understand that the Information Technology Department will provide information on minimum recommended specifications and that this information is of a generic nature.

15. I understand that I am part of a community and that my use of ICT resources needs to respect the rights of all users and members of this community.

I understand that access to Information Technologies can provide students with valuable learning experiences. I understand that Somerset College cannot always control what is accessible and some information available may be dangerous, illegal or offensive. I accept that, while teachers will always exercise their duty of care in relation to these matters, the responsibility for responsible use of their devices, ultimately rests with the students.

Consequences for unacceptable use
I accept that the breach of any of the above is taken very seriously by the College and may result in serious sanctions and disciplinary action for a first offense, in consultation with the College’s Behaviour Management Policy. I am aware that my parents may be contacted and informed of my actions. Ongoing or serious misuse of any devices I bring into the College environment may result in permission to bring in any devices being revoked.

Acceptance:
☑️ I understand and agree to observe the conditions in this policy as outlined above and the College’s Acceptable & Responsible Use of Information Technologies Policy. Onboarding the College’s network signifies the student’s acceptance of these policies.