Introduction

This policy is applicable to staff, students and parents/guardians, and outlines the terms and conditions governing the Bring Your Own Device program at Soldiers Point Public School. It establishes guidelines for the use of personal devices within the school environment, with the ability to access the Department of Education and Communities (DEC) Wi-Fi network. While the policy is intended to be comprehensive in nature, there will inevitably be situations that are not specifically outlined. In these circumstances, the principal or their delegate will decide on appropriate course of action to be taken.

The use of personal devices should not automatically be of concern. It is only when a device is used inappropriately that action may be necessary.

Rationale

Soldiers Point Public School values the seamless opportunities created by the integration of technology into student learning experiences. Our school is committed to creating a 21st century learning environment which empowers its students and gives them direct involvement in the way they use technology in their learning.

As an integral part of a broader whole school commitment to delivering quality teaching and learning, the BYOD program aims to prepare and equip our students to thrive in the 21st century. BYOD is not compulsory, however, selected students will be allowed and encouraged to bring a personal device to school for the purpose of learning.

Student BYOD Agreement

Both the student and a parent/guardian must sign a BYOD Student Agreement before the student is permitted to bring their device to school and connect it to the DEC Wi-Fi network. Students must read and sign the BYOD Student Agreement in the company of their parent/guardian.

Student Responsibilities

Students are solely responsible for the care and maintenance of their personal device. This includes but is not limited to:

- Managing battery life and regular charging of their device. Students should ensure that their devices are fully charged before bringing them to school. Schools are not responsible for providing facilities for students to charge their devices.
- Labeling their device for identification purposes. Students should clearly label their personal device for identification purposes. Labels should not be easily removable.
- Purchasing and using device protective casing. Students are responsible for securing and protecting their device in school. This includes protective/carry cases and exercising common sense when storing the device. The school is not required to provide designated or secure storage locations.
• Ensuring the device is safe and secure during travel to and from school and throughout the school day.
• Maintaining up-to-date antivirus software and operating systems on their device. Students must have a supported operating system and current antivirus software installed on their device and must continue to maintain the latest service packs, updates and antivirus definitions.
• Ensuring the operating system and all software on their device is legally and appropriately licensed.
• Taking insurance coverage of their own device to protect any accidental damage, theft or loss.
• Correctly connecting their device to the DEC Wi-Fi network. The school will not be responsible for any cellular charges that are incurred on a student’s device.

**Acceptable use of BYOD**

• Use of personal devices during the school day is at the discretion of teachers and staff. Students must only use devices as directed by their teacher.
• Students shall not use personal devices outside their classroom unless otherwise directed by their teacher e.g. playground, excursions etc.
• Students should not attach any school-owned equipment to their mobile devices without the permission of their teacher.
• A mobile phone is not part of Soldiers Point Public School’s BYOD program. Mobile phone use at school must comply with the school’s Student Mobile Phone Policy.
• Using the DEC network services to seek out, access, store or send any material of an offensive, obscene, pornographic, threatening, abusive or defamatory nature is prohibited. Such use may result in legal and/or disciplinary action.
• Students shall not create, transmit, retransmit or participate in the circulation of content on their devices that attempts to undermine, hack or bypass any hardware and software security mechanisms that have been implemented by the DEC, its Information Technology Directorate or the school.
• Students must not copy, transmit or retransmit any material that is protected by copyright, without prior permission from the copyright owner.
• Text, SMS messaging or device instant messaging by students during the school hours is unacceptable.
• Students must not take photos, video or audio recordings of any individual without their permission (including parent/guardian consent for minors) and the permission of an appropriate staff member.
• Students shall comply with departmental or school policies concerning the use of BYODs at school and while connected to the DEC’s network including:
  o **Online Communication Services – Acceptable Usage for School Students**
• The principal retains the right to determine what is, and is not, appropriate use of BYODs at the school within the bounds of NSW privacy and other legislation. The consequence of any breaches of this policy will be determined by the principal, in accordance with the school’s welfare and discipline policies.
**Damage or Loss**

Students bring personal devices to school at their own risk. The school and staff members will not accept responsibility for any loss, theft or damage to:

- the device;
- data stored on the device; or
- equipment associated with the device.

The school and staff members are not responsible for investigating loss, theft or damage of a device.

**Technical Support**

- The school and the NSW DEC staff are under no obligation to provide any technical support on hardware or software.
- Students are solely responsible for the repair and maintenance of their own device.

**Introduction and Reinforcement of Bring Your Own Device Policy**

- The school community will be made aware of the policy via the school newsletter.
- The policy will be published on the school's website.