Dear Parents and Carers,

Amaroo School have received feedback from parents and carers seeking clarification of some of our messages to parents about Bring Your Own Device (BYOD). Whilst we read and reread the letter many times we do apologise for any miscommunications.

This communication is designed to clarify the choice of device and security issues raised by a number of parents and carers.

Chromebooks are the device of choice for Amaroo School because they are inexpensive yet fast, light weight and the most secure device best suited to a school environment. However any device that meets the specifications on the link below will suffice.

It is also important to note that whilst Chromebooks have limitations and will not perform all the functions of a laptop or notebook computer. Amaroo School is confident that Chromebooks meet the 21st Century learning needs of students at Amaroo School.

Whilst Amaroo School will do all we can in regards to keeping devices safe at school we cannot accept responsibility for thefts and losses. In regards to security issues around students involved in our BYOD program we would make the following points:

- one of the reasons Amaroo School has chosen a Chromebook as the device of choice is that they are very light and can be carried on the person of the student continuously and comfortably as a result.
- Chromebooks are also inexpensive devices that all students will have access to. High Value devices that are brought to school may be at greater risk of loss, damage or theft.
- lockers are available at a small cost and will be the best way to secure a device safely during breaks
- students will be asked to sign a digital contract that makes clear their personal device is their own responsibility which is designed to teach them how to look after and take responsibility for their own equipment.
- Amaroo School will support the implementation of BYOD with library lending of Chromebooks during the day.
- Amaroo School believes the use and care of a personal digital device for learning will equip students with essential knowledge and skills to function highly effectively in the 21st century throughout school and into adulthood.

I hope this information places parents and carers in a position where they feel they can support the program with the provision of a device, however if this is not possible your child will be able to borrow a device from the library.

Amaroo School will continue to update communication around BYOD and our ICT plans on our website. Please refer to:


Richard Powell
Principal
9 December 2014