



Roleystone Community College BYOD

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



My child already has a laptop, can they bring that instead?

Yes, if it satisfies the minimum requirements mentioned in the information booklet. Please note the school has engaged with Winthrop Australia as our preferred-provider due to the warranty and on-site after sales service included with each device.

How will you keep students safe in the digital world?

Upon arrival, all students are required to complete a Responsible Use Policy, which seeks to educate students on the school's safe usage policy and digital footprint. An Acceptable Use Policy must be signed by all parents and students on commencement of Year 7 and whenever the device is updated. A focus on cyber safety and ethical use of ICT is incorporated into all MESH learning areas and Digital Technologies electives.

What happens if we can't afford a BYOD?

Please speak to Winthrop Australia. They offer a limited number of payment plans. Students will also have access, subject to availability, to school owned devices; however, these might offer limited functionality.

Is the device insured?

Winthrop Australia offer insurance and accidental damage bundles on devices purchased from them at the estimated cost of around \$165 for up to three (3) years. Additionally, devices may be eligible for addition to your existing home and content insurance – please check with your relevant insurer(s). The school takes no responsibility for any loss or damage.

Can students use their device at recess and lunch?

No, except if completing school work in the library on dedicated days, under staff supervision. The school's Use of Personal Electronic Devices Policy applies. All students are encouraged to socialise or actively engage in yard games during recess and lunch.

What happens if there is a software/hardware fault or damage to a device?

The school / teachers will provide a FAQ sheet for all students to run through if they have a problem with their device. This will resolve the most common issues. If further support is needed:

- Bought through Winthrop – students can take their device to the front office and a job can be lodged with Winthrop. Should repairs not be covered by warranties or insurance, Winthrop will contact parents directly (mainly via email).
- Bought through a retailer – Parents should approach the retailer or device manufacturer.

What technical support do we get?

Support will be provided to connect all devices to the wireless network if the minimum specifications for the device are met. Limited troubleshooting FAQs can be discussed with teachers (who are not technology experts), depending on the issue. If necessary, students will be referred back to parents to log a job through the Winthrop Service Department. The warranty and service component purchased from Winthrop Australia is fully operated by them and is independent of the college. However, devices needing service or repair will be collected and returned by Winthrop Australia directly via the school site.

How often/much will the device be used?

Dependent on student timetables, device may be used for two to three lessons a day, on average. However, the device is a learning tool and will be used by staff to add value to the class learning as appropriate – therefore it is important to purchase a device with a minimum battery life of 10 hours.

Do students need to bring their device to every lesson?

Yes, they will be carrying the device like their other learning tools in their bag.

How do I manage my Data?

At a minimum, you need to purchase a device with 128GB of storage space. This storage should be sufficient for school needs. In addition to this, students have free access to Microsoft OneDrive, which offers cloud storage for all your data (1TB!). If your storage space becomes limited, deleting old data is a good idea. You **could** also purchase an external hard drive or USB storage device.

How does the school monitor my usage?

The use of the network at Roleystone Community College will be monitored through a centrally located server and internet filtering device. If used inappropriately by a student, access will be revoked. Use of student mobile networks (hotspotting) for BYOD is not authorised at Roleystone Community College as this conflicts with the Personal Electronic Devices Policy of the college and of the Department of Education. As can be appreciated, if a BYOD is hotspotting, the school cannot control the content being accessed.

Can I recharge at school if my battery is flat?

No – students are responsible for ensuring that their devices are charged overnight and brought to school with a full battery. Chargers should be left at home as they add unnecessary weight to student bags. If the battery on the device runs flat, the student will miss out on device-dependent learning activities.

Do I need to purchase Microsoft Office for my child's laptop?

No.

As a student at a public school, your child has an automatic Office365 subscription which gives students access to these services. Please be aware that whilst this provides students with the latest and most up to date versions of the office suite, once the student has finished their education at a public school, the license is revoked and the products will no longer work. If you have previously purchased your own license for the office suite, we encourage you to keep all keycodes and licensing information so you can reinstall it at a later date, should this be the case. Please see the required software component of the BYOD Information Booklet on how to download Office365.

Are Apple / Chromebook devices supported at the school?

Not for BYOD at Roleystone Community College.

iPads are used in various parts of the school; however, they have limited functionality and are not appropriate for BYOD applications. Chromebooks require individual devices to be set up one-by-one to be able to connect to the wireless network – which is time consuming and problematic.

Roleystone Community College is a Microsoft / Windows school. Wireless network connections are streamlined and simple. Limited troubleshooting and assistance can be offered when non-Windows devices are in use.