

## BYOD Frequently Asked Questions

**AB Daley is committed to immersing our students in the creation of knowledge and empowering our students to collaborate, communicate, and innovate.**

### Information about School Grade 6 Project:

Thank you to the parents who attended our meeting on Wednesday February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015. As a school council we take our jobs seriously in representing the voices of the parents in this school. We realize not everyone can attend the meetings and it is great to see parents contacting class reps to have their voices heard on their behalf. The commitment to our students is admirable. After lengthy discussion and vote it was determined that the school at the grade 6 level will try a project where, when using technology they will have the option to use their own device (with parent approval) or a device provided by the school. An informational letter created by the school will go home to all grades k-6 about this project. Please note personal devices will only be used during the specific class time assigned to the project and at the grade 6 level only. Meeting minutes will be available on the school website as soon as possible. School policy-rules and more detailed information will be provided. After the project has been completed a presentation will be made to school council to share details.

### What is BYOD?

Bring your own device, is a phrase that has become widely adopted to refer to those who bring their own computing devices – such as smartphones, laptops and PDAs.

### What are the benefits of a BYOD Program?

- Supports a digital age classroom
- Fosters student ownership of their own learning
- Fosters student choice and student engagement
- Opportunities to practice digital citizenship in a safe and caring environment
- Student real time access to information
- Smooth transition between home and school
- Provides easier student access to online instructional materials
- Supplements school resources and equipment
- Students are comfortable using their own devices (familiarity)
- Student Centered: Through choice, apps and their preferred problem solving methods

### How will my child be using their device during the school day?

Students will use their devices to complete in class activities, access google docs, complete homework, collaborate in real time, research for projects, access websites with curriculum-related content, keep track of classroom assignments, and record journal entries and other approved instructional activities.

Students should only bring personal devices for a specific use in classes where the teacher has permitted them. Unless otherwise noted, devices are not to be used in open areas (hallways, recesses or for non instructional activities). This will be monitored by school staff.

## **What about security/theft/damage?**

Devices are the sole responsibility of the student. AB Daley accepts no responsibility for the security or safety of the device. Students are responsible for the security of the device. Teachers and other staff will not store or hold onto devices. LRSD Staff will not repair or troubleshoot student devices. If parents allow their children to bring their own devices then they do so at their own risk.

## **What is the policy on charging personally owned devices while at school?**

It is recommended that personally owned devices come to school with a full charge. Students should be made aware that the school is not responsible to provide an opportunity or the necessary power to charge their device during the school day.

## **What apps/software will be used in the classroom?**

AB Daley does not provide or require apps or software for personally owned devices. Classroom lessons will be tailored for the technology that all students have access to (for example: google applications on school devices). If possible, a student may choose to complete the same lesson on their personal device. The internet browser built into the personally owned devices can be used to access the AB Daley network and the Livingstone Range School Division Google Apps for Education application.

## **What happens if the device breaks while in school?**

The student will put the device away and take it home at the end of the school day where the student and parent can troubleshoot the device. AB Daley has limited resources and cannot provide comprehensive support for the wide variety of devices allowed under this program.

## **Will the device be protected with Internet Content Filtering?**

To facilitate instruction and practice internet safety, AB Daley's internet connection is protected by an internet content filter. Cellular data plans do not use AB Daley's internet connection and therefore do not use AB Daley's internet content filter. Students should only use the AB Daley School's WiFi internet connection with their BYOD device while on AB Daley property.

## **Should I go out and buy my child a device?**

Personally owned devices are a supplement to the equipment already in use in the classroom. BYOD is an optional program and parents are not required to purchase a device for their child.

## **Does the BYOD wireless system, allow AB Daley School to monitor activities on BYOD devices?**

AB Daley's wireless system, is used solely for device registration, not device management and, therefore, doesn't provide AB Daley the capability to monitor activities on BYOD devices. The purpose of the system is to provide an easy-to-use mechanism to register BYOD devices to allow students and employees the ability to use their own device on the AB Daley wireless network.

During the registration process, information such as IP address and MAC address are collected and logged. This information would be used to locate a device if it is misplaced or if inappropriate activity, in possible violation of the Internet Acceptable Use Policy, was traced back to a particular device on the network. It is not the intention of AB Daley to actively manage, monitor or access BYOD devices. In situations where there is a potential Acceptable Use

policy violation, AB Daley does reserve the right to investigate all devices and activities on the AB Daley network, including BYOD devices, to determine if any wrongdoing occurred.

## **Types of Personal Technology Devices and Accessories**

Students may use devices that fall into the following categories: (1) laptops, (2) netbooks, (3) tablets, and (4) e-Readers. In some instances, teachers may allow cell phones/smartphones to be used.

## **What access is available to my child if he/she does not bring their own device?**

Teachers frequently provide collaborative lessons which encourage students to work together, sharing information accessed through personal devices or school devices. When individual work is assigned, students may use computers and other devices located in classrooms and/or in the library or by signing out laptops from the laptop carts. No child's learning experience or academic performance will be affected because he or she does not have an Internet-connected device to bring to school (school will provide the device). AB Daley is committed to reducing technology inequity so every child can learn equally. Students (nor staff) are not required to provide a personal device for school use, even if they do own one. [Use of personal electronic devices is optional.](#)

## **Will students be able to record teachers or classmates (audio or video)?**

With the permission of the teacher or administrator, students may make recordings.

<http://education.alberta.ca/department/policy/standards/goals.aspx>

## **What about responsible Digital Citizenship?**

Digital citizenship encourages students to respect themselves, others and intellectual property, while at the same time learning to think critically about protecting themselves and others from harmful content and behaviours online. Recognizing that students have digital lives and benefit from the use of technology, schools have the opportunity to help students build the skills they need to become responsible citizens in the global online community. Staff at AB Daley teach responsible digital citizenship daily. The division has resources to support teaching digital citizenship (SAC group). [http://www4.education.alberta.ca/media/8949/digital\\_citizenship\\_tech\\_briefing.pdf](http://www4.education.alberta.ca/media/8949/digital_citizenship_tech_briefing.pdf)

## **How does this project support the new Ministerial Order outlined by Alberta Education?**

It supports the application of multiple literacies: reading, writing, mathematics, technology, languages, media, and personal finance. It is a tool that supports learning.

## **How does this project support curriculum?**

Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) is a new digital curriculum for students in grades 5 to 9. CTF supports flexible, interdisciplinary learning where students explore interests and passions while making personal connections to career possibilities and technologies associated with various Career and Technology Studies (CTS) occupational areas. <http://education.alberta.ca/teachers/program/ctf.aspx>

## **Cost?**

There is no cost unless you chose to purchase a device to send with your child. Otherwise the school will have a device for your child to use. LRSD has a 6:1 student to computer ratio and AB Daley has a 3:1 student to computer ratio.

## **ScreenTime?**

School activities will continue to use the tools best suited for students' learning, such as paper and pencil, outdoor activity, interpersonal communication, or a technology device. Integrating BYOD provides yet another tool for our students and teachers, and by discussing what tool is most appropriate for an activity, we learn how technology best serves students' learning. The devices will be used when teachers deem that it is an appropriate enhancement to student learning. The devices are not intended to minimize the role of the teacher or instruction, but to add a tool that improves teaching and learning.

### **Health Concerns: What are the health risks of too much Wifi exposure to children's development?**

Since BYOD is an additional resource, not replacement, for learning activities, usage time comprises a small percentage of the school day. Also, the structure of our class timetable restricts prolonged usage. As such, we feel the health risks are limited, although we will monitor usage for further study. (Health safety recommendations please see [Health Canada](#) website).

### **Other information:**

"Learning is complex work and like other forms of skilled and technical work it requires that the person performing the job understand and be comfortable with his or her tool set." -Alberta Teacher, 2011

### **Combined with the right pedagogy and used responsibly, technologies in learning can serve as:**

1. The means for students to pursue lines of inquiry and interest in the academic disciplines and beyond.
  2. The opportunity for learners to collaborate with teachers and peers and to express themselves and their ideas most effectively.
  3. A vehicle for personalizing learning in ways that ensure each student is fully engaged in learning and is successful in attaining established learning standards.
  4. Opportunities for student choice in the use of multimedia to explore, research, think, synthesize, analyze, evaluate, communicate and express ideas in high quality products.
  5. A platform and forum for students' voices.
  6. Access to digital content and digital learning environments that provide multiple pathways to learning.
  7. Connections locally and globally that add authenticity to school work. This enables students to learn while pursuing real-world issues and topics of deep interest to them, both individually and collectively, within their communities of interest and beyond.
  8. Platforms from which to learn about and attain high standards in digital citizenship.
  9. Opportunities for students to construct ideas, opinions, arguments and evidence-based reasoning collaboratively.
- The reality is that web-based tools and resources have changed the landscape of learning. Students now have at their fingertips unlimited access to digital content, resources, experts, databases and communities of interest.

**By effectively leveraging such resources, school authorities not only have the opportunity to deepen student learning, but they can also develop digital literacy, fluency and citizenship in students that will prepare them for the high tech world in which they will live, learn and work.**