

# PAEPAE O AOTEA

Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata

10 October 2025

Kia ora e te whānau,

As we prepare for the 2026 school year, I'd like to share some important updates regarding our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) expectations at Te Paepae o Aotea.

#### Why BYOD?

Following recent curriculum developments and feedback from our teaching team, we are moving to a full BYOD model for students in Years 9–13. This decision is based on research into schools that are successfully supporting students with the NCEA Literacy and Numeracy Corequisites. These schools consistently report improved outcomes when students have access to their own device both at school and at home.

Our goal is to ensure every student has the tools they need to succeed in a digitally connected learning environment. BYOD supports:

- anytime, anywhere access to learning resources
- development of digital literacy and responsibility
- enhanced collaboration between students and teachers, and
- personalised learning experiences.

### What Does This Mean for 2026?

- All students in Years 9–13 will be expected to bring their own device to school daily.
- Students in Years 7–8 may bring their own device. We will continue to provide access to school devices during class time.
- Specialised classes (e.g., digital technology, photography) require devices with higher specifications. We will continue to supply these for use within classes.

#### **Recommended Device Specifications**

To ensure devices are suitable for learning, we recommend:

Battery life: 6+ hours

Screen size: 11 inches or larger

• Memory: 4GB RAM minimum

• Storage: 64GB or more

Wi-fi capable and able to run web-based applications (e.g., Google Workspace).

## **Support and Safety**

- All students must sign and follow our CyberSafety Agreement.
- Devices are the responsibility of the student and whānau.
- The school provides filtered internet access and digital citizenship education.

We understand transitioning to BYOD may raise questions. Our team is here to support you. If you need help selecting a device or understanding the requirements, please contact us.

Ngā mihi nui,

Rachel Williams

Principal