BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE POLICY

Ambassador School, Sharjah

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AMBASSADOR SCHOOL, SHARJAH
BRING YOUR OWN DEVICES
(BYOD) POLICY

Technology is an integral part of life, and this is no less true in education. At Ambassador School, Sharjah, we are dedicated to a learning environment that gives access to appropriate technology in order to enhance learning, unlock potential and connect students locally and globally. We ensure that all students and staff have access to high-speed internet in all areas of the school and they may bring a device of their own to access this.

The students at SAS are digital-natives. For them, technology is part of the environment in which they are growing up. The BYOD policy has been designed to ensure that all members of the school community are given the opportunity to develop the necessary digital literacy skills to thrive in the digital age.

How does BYOD support learning?

Student-centered learning is a key value of any education sector and BYOD helps support this philosophy by giving students more opportunities to take responsibility for their own learning and to develop the attributes of the Learners Profile.

Our aim at SAS is for students to learn with technology, rather than learning from technology. The use of BYOD supports key contemporary learning skills including:
- Accessing, filtering and processing information
- Planning and organizing
- Making choices and decisions
- Facing challenges and problem solving
- Risk-taking and overcoming challenges
- Collaborating and sharing
- Communicating
- Being creative and innovative
- Reflecting

This policy applies to any device that is not school owned or supplied, and is used to access the school wireless network. The purpose of this policy is to establish clear guidelines and procedures when students use their own devices in school, to ensure safe use and the integrity of the SAS network.

Which devices are suitable for BYOD?

At SAS, our BYOD model is based upon The Bring Your Own Standard Device. This allows for both parent and student to choose a device, which meets their budget and needs, while meeting the requirements of learning at SAS.

The devices "of choice" at Ambassador School, Sharjah are as follows.

Programme	Preferred Device
Grades 6 to 8 (Middle School)	Suitable laptop/MacBook or Tablet/iPad
Grades 9 & 10 (Secondary School)	Laptop/MacBook

Please note that **smartphones are not considered a suitable device** due to screen size, storage limitations, and function restrictions.

Please look at the below specifications for the device you would like to bring in.

Windows Device:
1. My device is not older than 4 years, or was purchased during or after 2016.
2. My device has at least 4GB of RAM.
3. My device has a 4 + hour battery life.
4. My device has working Wifi.
5. My device has Windows 7 or above.
6. My laptop has up to date anti-virus software

Apple Laptop:
1. My laptop is not older than 4 years, or was purchased during or after 2016.
2. My laptop is running OSX Yosemite version (free to install)
3. My laptop has at least 4GB of RAM (8GB recommended for MacBook Pro).
4. My laptop has a 4 + hour battery life.
5. My laptop has working Wifi.

Tablet/iPad:
1. My tablet is less than 4 years old, or was purchased during or after 2016
2. My tablet is running the most up to date OS
3. My tablet has a 4+ hour battery life
4. My tablet has working wifi.
5. A 10" screen or more (this automatically excludes mobile phones)
6. A Protective case
7.

Software/Apps
- Word processing (word, pages, google docs)
- Spreadsheet capabilities (excel, numbers, sheets)
- Cloud Storage (One Drive)

- Chrome web browser
- Voice record ing capabilities
- Video recording/editing

Students with tablets will be required to download Apps to suit the learning situation within their classroom. This may also include a Mobile Device Management software.

Are there restrictions on the use of my device?

The use of a personal device in the school is for instructional use only and at the teacher's discretion. In addition, the wireless access is for internet use only, and users will not have access to other school systems or printers. Any use of the wireless network entails personal responsibility and compliance with all school rules and policies.

School has implemented strong internet access setup via its firewall which does not allow student network to access any social media sites, games sites or apps the firewall will allow only whitelisted websites and it's content via school network.

Will I receive technical support?

All students will be given the necessary help and guidance to set up passwords and access the internet. However, due to the large number of devices in the school, maintenance and technical support is the responsibility of the user.

THE BYOD
Acceptable Use Policy

We have read and understood how the BYOD policy will enhance student-centered learning at SAS. We will work in collaboration with the school as per the agreement below. We recommend that parents ensure that devices are fully insured, serial numbers are recorded and where possible tracking/location software is used.

	Please Tick
We agree that students are responsible for the safety, security loss or damage of their device. The school cannot be held responsible for student devices.	
Devices should only be used for learning purposes, as instructed by a teacher. Using the device in a way that disrupts the learning of others would result in disciplinary action .	

Users must power off and put away personal devices if directed to do so by teachers or school administration.	
Users are responsible for the use of their personal device on the SAS network at all times.	
The school is unable to support any technical issues and/or upgrades of the device.	
Users should practice caution when allowing others to access their personal device. All liabilities remain with the user.	
It is expected that students arrive at school with their devices fully charged.	
It is expected that apps are downloaded at home and that iTunes accounts are not accessed in school, to protect parents and students financially.	
The use of private 3G and/or 4G (LTE) wireless connections is not permitted. In school students should only connect to the internet via the school WIFI.	
The use of a device to threaten the sense of security or well-being of others is not permissible on or off campus.	

Please sign below to confirm that you have read and will abide by the acceptable use policy and that you are aware of the consequences of failure to do so.

I agree to the stipulations set forth in the school Internet, Network, Technology Equipment and BYOD Acceptable Use Policy.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____   Date: _____

Parent or Guardian

As a parent or guardian of this student, I have discussed the standards with my child and understand that misuse of the school's Network, Internet access, Technology Equipment and BYOD scheme will result in termination of all Internet and Technology privileges for my child and possibly lead to exclusion from the school.

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____   Date: _____

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