



Frequently Asked Questions

What is BYOT?

Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) is an initiative that allows students to use their personal technology devices at specified times during the school day to enhance the learning experience.

Are parents required to purchase mobile devices for their child?

No. The goal of BYOT is to allow students, who already own mobile devices, to bring their technology devices to school and use them in the classrooms.

What will happen to the students who do not own mobile devices?

The school will supply students who do not own mobile devices with resources, as available, that they may use during the school day when the use of technology is necessary in class. The type of resources will vary depending on both the grade level and the task needed to be completed. Students may also be able to share with a classmate who brought a device to school.

Will all teachers be participating in BYOT?

No. Utilizing BYOT is a significant change in the way a teacher delivers content knowledge. Some teachers will embrace the change more quickly than others. The subject matter will also play a significant role in the extent to which mobile technology is utilized.

Will students be able to use their devices anytime they want to?

No. The use of the mobile devices within each classroom will be controlled by the individual classroom teacher. Students will learn when it is appropriate to use technology and when it is not appropriate to use technology.

How will the personal technology devices be used?

The way the device is used will vary by teacher, grade level, and course of study. Some possible examples are Research; Writing papers; Creating presentations; Organization; Web 2.0 Tools; Google Docs; Polling.

Will there be a permission form that needs to be signed before a student brings his/her device to school?

Students and parents must sign the form - *Thomaston-Upson County Schools BYOT Program Protocol for the Use of Personal Technology* - before a student is allowed to use his/her mobile device in the classroom.

Could a school administrator revoke a students' BYOT privilege?

If a student is not following the developed guidelines for the use of his or her personally owned device, an administrator can revoke the privilege through the regular discipline process.

How will theft, loss, or damage of a personally owned device be handled in a school?

The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices. The guidelines for the BYOT program specifically address the risk of students bringing their own devices to school.

Will students be able to use ear buds or other types of headsets?

Students may use these during class with the permission of the classroom teacher.

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

In certain cases, students may be allowed to make recordings, but only with the permission of the teacher.

Will students be able to use their devices before or after school? During lunch? In the media center?

Access to devices at the school outside of class time will be determined by each school. Please refer to your school's BYOT policy on this matter.



Recommended BYOT devices:

Smartphone

Ipad

Ipod touch

Kindle Fire

Google Nexus

Samsung Galaxy

e-readers

netbooks

laptops

tablets

Internet-capable Portable Gaming Devices*

*Please note that game cartridges should be removed from the devices prior to your child bringing the technology to school. Game cartridges ARE NOT allowed.