Dear Parents and Guardians,

Re: Important information regarding the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program for 2025

In today's educational landscape, your child's access to technology is integral to their learning experience. At Lighthouse Christian College, we are committed to delivering a BYOD program that not only enhances learning but also ensures your child's safety online. As we prepare for the upcoming academic year, we want to share with you our plans for the BYOD program for 2025.

At the start of 2024, we initiated a process to streamline the types of devices used across the school. This effort is designed to create a more efficient and cohesive learning environment, where technology seamlessly integrates with our educational systems. By limiting the variety of devices, we aim to ensure that each student's device can reliably connect to our network and run essential applications such as Microsoft Office 365 and SEQTA, our Learning Management System.

This focus on compatibility and integration is not just about convenience; it's about safeguarding your child's online experience. A device that connects well to our network means your child is protected by our robust cybersecurity systems. Additionally, we will be offering training and software solutions to help you ensure your child's safety when using their device at home.

In 2025, we will continue our commitment to compatibility, seamless integration, and online safety. This means:

- **New Devices:** All new devices **must** be purchased through the designated College portal and will be limited to the device we have selected. This device has been chosen because it meets the specific technology requirements necessary to support your child's learning.
- **Existing Devices:** If your child's current device has already been approved by our IT department, is configured for our school system, and meets the current minimum specifications, it can continue to be used in 2025.

Device Requirements for 2025:

To ensure seamless compatibility with our educational technology platforms, we have standardized the BYOD device requirements. It is essential that your child's device meets these specifications to fully participate in their learning. Detailed information about these requirements can be found in our **BYOD program for 2025** document, which will be attached to this letter.

New Device Purchases:

Starting in 2025, all new devices must be purchased through the College portal. This policy ensures consistency in the devices used by students, allowing for easier maintenance and configuration by our IT department, and supporting full participation in the learning process.

Year-Level Specific Requirements:

- **Prep – Year 3 (2025):** The College will provide an iPad for these students. Parents do not need to purchase any device, as the cost is covered by a component of the student levy charged.
- **Year 4 (2025):** Parents **must** purchase the required device from the College portal no later than 8 November 2024 to ensure it is ready for use at the start of Term One in 2025.
- **Years 5-12 (2025):**
  - **Existing Students:** If your child is an existing student and their current device runs Windows OS, meets the minimum specifications outlined in our device specification table, and has been approved by the IT Department and previously configured for the school network, then they may continue using it in 2025. However, if an upgrade or replacement becomes necessary, the new device must be purchased through the College portal by 8 November 2024 to ensure it is ready for the start of Term One in 2025.
  - **New Students:** For all new students, parents **must** purchase the required device from the College portal no later than 8 November 2024 to ensure it is ready for Term One in 2025.

Early Purchase Recommendation:

We strongly encourage early purchase of the required device. Doing so ensures that your child has the necessary technology and allows our IT Department sufficient time to configure and prepare the device for classroom use, preventing any last-minute technical issues that could disrupt learning. If a device is purchased after the 8 November, then it will not be possible for this device to be ready at the commencement of the 2025 academic year.

Important Note:

Please **do not** purchase a device outside of the College portal or choose to bring a device of a different brand or outside the specifications. This will be a very costly exercise as we will no longer support or configure such devices for use on our network.

Device Management:

To enhance security and create a controlled digital environment, the College will manage the devices used by students. This management allows us to monitor usage and ensure a safe and productive online experience for all.

We understand that technology is constantly evolving, and we are committed to providing the best possible tools and support for your child's education. Our primary goal is to create a learning environment that empowers students with the skills and resources they need to succeed in an ever-changing world. We greatly appreciate your partnership in achieving this goal and your understanding of these upcoming changes.

If you have any immediate questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to our IT Department (helpdesk@lighthouse.vic.edu.au) or the E-Learning Department (eLearning@lighthouse.vic.edu.au). You may also reach out to either of these departments by calling us on 03-87967373.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to another successful academic year ahead.

Yours Faithfully

Simon Taylor
Deputy Principal –Secondary
E-Learning Coordinator

<ins>Lighthouse Christian College (LCC) - Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Program for 2025</ins>

Students in Years 4-12 will be required to purchase a Windows device through the College portal. All the students' devices will be under the College Managed Device Program i.e., the IT department will be the Administrator on the student's device and as part of the program, they will install licensed Microsoft Office, Antivirus, and all the software required for learning on these devices.

A Windows-based device must be purchased from the College portal. Devices such as MacBooks/ Chrome books/ Tablets are not accepted.

For All **<ins>new students</ins>**, parents **must** purchase the device from the College portal at the latest, 8 November 2024, to ensure their child's device is ready beginning of Term One in 2025.

For existing students, you may continue to bring your device from this year if it is a **Windows OS device and meets the minimum specification** outlined in the '<ins>Device Minimum Specification table</ins>' below and has been approved by the IT department during 2024. If you're unsure about your device minimum specification, please click on this link (https://form.jotform.com/232470622138047) to check your device specification with IT department. Should your device not meet the minimum specifications, or it needs to be replaced, you will need to purchase a device through the College portal link provided below.

LCC has negotiated a competitive education price with a local supplier that fits the required specifications and parents can either buy the device outright or on a payment plan.

Please click the following **<ins>College portal link</ins>** for more information: https://lighthouse.orderportal.com.au/

<ins>Device **Minimum** Specification Table:</ins>
Please Note: The device must be less than three years of age at the commencement of 2025

Year Level/ Group	Device Minimum Specification
Year 4 – Year 6	Windows Pro OS with AMD Ryzen 5 Processor or Intel i5 Processor, 8GB RAM, and 256 GB SSD (hard disk).
Year 7 – Year 9	Windows Pro OS with Intel i5 Processor, 16GB RAM, and 256 GB SSD (hard disk).
Year 10 – Year 12	Windows Pro OS with Intel i5 Processor, 16 GB RAM, and 256 GB SSD (hard disk).
Technology Electives (Systems Engineering, Applied Computing, Product Design and Visual Communitation)	Windows Pro OS with Intel i7 Processor, 32 GB RAM, 512 GB SSD (hard disk), and On-board Graphic Card (Nvidia or Radeon) with at least 4GB VRAM.
Devices not allowed	MacBooks or Chrome books or iOS/ Android Tablets are not allowed