Introduction

Information and Communication Technology is an integral tool in modern society. Technological skills are required for all students as they prepare for life in an ever changing and adapting technological workforce. At Weeroona College Bendigo our eLearning vision is that we become a virtual learning environment where teaching and learning is fully supported by digital means; where students can manage their learning and curriculum pathways, teachers can plan collaboratively, and parents can access and monitor student progress.

In pursuit of this vision a number of key programs are implemented:

- Weeroona Learning Support Dashboard - our web based Learning Management System which allows Teachers, Parents and Students to access up-to-date information regarding attendance, conduct, learning resources, assessment and reporting.
- Bring a Specified Device program - ensuring that every student has their own device to allow them to participate in all aspects of communication, learning and assessment.
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) pilot project.
- On Demand Literacy and Numeracy testing.

We are continually striving to integrate learning technologies to offer all students the best learning opportunities possible.

As teaching and learning increasingly depends on our use of technology we recognise our responsibility to ensure students have the access to appropriate technology and are trained in how to use it effectively to meet educational and personal goals and outcomes.
BSD 2016

At Weeroona College Bendigo we have gradually implemented our BSD program since 2014. In that time we have learnt many valuable lessons relating to the use of various devices for learning and how to best administer this program.

After much reflection and evaluation of current programs we have decided from the beginning of 2016 to limit devices for new students and students upgrading their device to Windows based devices. This will provide all students with access to:

- A consistent learning experience.
- Consistent high level educational support.
- Use of new and innovative technological learning experiences and programs.

Further benefits include:

- Better access to Google Services which integrate with the Weeroona Learning Support Dashboard.
- Improved tech support when trouble shooting technical problems.
- Streamlined administration of our network.

From the beginning of 2016 we will limit devices for new students and students upgrading their device to Windows based devices.

Purchasing Devices for 2016

We have redesigned the purchase process for 2016 to better support families and students in both the initial selection and purchase of appropriate devices and after sales support in regards to warranty and insurance claims.

Warranty claims and damage cause unnecessary inconvenience and costs for families

Each year of the program we have found that all students arrive with devices keen and ready to learn, then over the course of the year some of these devices suffer damage. Whether a warranty or an insurance claim, this often becomes a significant inconvenience. Generally warranty claims require devices to be returned to the place of purchase during business hours and without insurance damage repairs can cost a significant amount of money.

We have chosen to partner with Learning with Technologies (LWT) to ensure that every student has a quality device at a reasonable price and to improve the quality of after sales support. This company specialise in providing technology sales and service to schools. They facilitate the purchase, distribution and after sales support of devices. The advantages in families purchasing devices in this manner are:

1. Families select a device from a list of devices pre-approved by the college so you know that the device will work.
2. Three year onsite warranty - all warranty claims can be processed and repaired at the college by LWT certified technicians. This means less hassle and time wasted for families
3. Insurance options - insurance can be purchased to protect against accidental damage with repairs carried out onsite by LWT certified technicians.
4. Devices delivered to your door.
Order Portal

During Term 4 an order portal will be made available via our college website for all 2016 Year 7 student families and students in Years 8, 9 & 10 who wish to upgrade their current device. Families simply access the portal, select their chosen device from those listed and pay. When selecting a device for your child, options will be provided regarding insurance, protective cases/bags and optional extras. Purchases are delivered prior to the beginning of the 2016 school year.

Cost

Cost for devices and options vary and begin around $768. This will include:
- Device
- 2 year on-site warranty
- 2 year accidental damage insurance (optional)
- Bag/case
- Delivery

As a college we are able to provide software to reduce costs.
- Microsoft Office 2013 ($169 saving) - the license allows us to provide this for all students while enrolled at the college.

eLearning Levy

Each year families will also be charged an eLearning Levy. This helps to pay for technical support, network infrastructure and print services.

Already Have a Device? No Worries

Ideally, every Year 7 student and new student will have a Windows device purchased through our LWT online portal. However, our primary goal is that every student has access to appropriate technology, therefore, 2016 will be a year of transition. If your child already has a device which they have been using in 2015, Windows or an iPad, they may continue using this in 2016. If you have another Windows device which you would like your child to use in 2016 we ask that you make an appointment to have the device checked by one of our technicians to ensure that it is suitable. The checklist below lists our minimum specification requirements.

Windows Device Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OPERATING SYSTEM</td>
<td>Windows 8.1 or 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCREEN</td>
<td>10&quot; or larger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEMORY</td>
<td>2GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIRELESS</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>HARD DRIVE</td>
<td>64GB minimum (flash/eMMC/SSD preferred)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KEYBOARD</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BATTERY</td>
<td>7 hours minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMERA</td>
<td>Preferred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOUCH</td>
<td>Preferred</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Order Portal Information

We have chosen to partner with LWT to ensure that every student has a quality device at a reasonable price with responsive and efficient after sales support. This company specialise in providing technology sales and service to schools. They use an online order portal to facilitate the purchase, distribution and after sales support of devices. The advantages of purchasing devices in this manner are:

5. **The right device** – families select a device from a list of devices pre-approved by the college so you know that the device will work.
6. **Three year onsite warranty** – all warranty claims can be processed and repaired at the college by LWT certified technicians. This means less hassle and time wasted for families and more time with the device being used in the classroom.
7. **Insurance options** - insurance can be purchased to protect against accidental damage with repairs carried out onsite by LWT certified technicians.
8. **Delivered to your door** – each device you purchase is delivered to your door.
9. **Easy purchase** – the purchase portal provides a clear, straightforward method for purchasing a device for your child.

Purchase

The order portal can be accessed at [wcy9.orderportal.com.au](http://wcy9.orderportal.com.au) or via the college website at [www.weeroona.vic.edu.au](http://www.weeroona.vic.edu.au). We have identified a choice of three devices. When selecting your device please be aware of the following:

1. **Warranty** – a two year on-site warranty is automatically included in the purchase price.
2. **Insurance** – a two year insurance policy is automatically preselected.
   a. Accidental Damage Insurance is highly recommended, however, families are not mandated to purchase insurance. It is recommended that all families read the Insurance Policy Disclosure Statement for full terms and conditions.
   b. Acer provides the option of a $90 insurance premium with one ‘no excess claim’ per year. Please be aware that this is limited to one claim per year. Again, it is recommended that all families read the Policy Disclosure Statement for full terms and conditions.
   c. The Policy Disclosure Statements are available within the Portal at the time of purchase.
3. **Bag** – to further protect your child’s device a bag is automatically preselected.
4. **Delivery** – LWT state that your order will be processed straight away and goods will usually be shipped by LWT to you via Australia Post Eparcel within 1-2 weeks. For further details see the FAQs on the order portal.

Orders can now be placed. The order portal will be available into the 2016 school year to enable families to purchase their device in preparation for the 2016 school year.

School Readiness

Once you have received delivery of your child’s device please complete the following before the first day of the 2016 school year:

1. Open the device package.
2. Turn on the device and complete the initial set up process.

As the device is your personal property you and your child may use it before the 2016 school year begins. This will provide your child with the opportunity to familiarise themselves with their new device. When they arrive in 2016 additional software, including Microsoft Office, will be installed during the first week of school in 2016. During this time your child will receive orientation to key college systems, website and support in installing key software to enable them to participate in all digital learning opportunities at the college.

Questions

For questions regarding a device purchase and the purchase portal please contact **Learning with Technologies** directly on 1300 550 717. In addition, there is a Frequently Asked Questions webpage accessible via the order portal.

For any further questions regarding the 2016 BSD program please contact the **Tim McInnes**, eLearning Leader on (03) 5443 2133.