In 2014, DEC schools in NSW will be implementing the ‘Bring Your Own Device’ (BYOD) Program whereby students will be able to bring a personally owned laptop or tablet and connect to the school’s Wi-Fi network for the purpose of education. This new program coincides with the end of the ‘Digital Education Revolution’ (DER) student laptop program, which ends in 2013.

At Burwood Girls High School, the BYOD Program will allow all students in Years 7-12 to bring their own computing device to school each day. Students’ personal computing devices must meet the minimum device requirements for both connection to the school Wi-Fi network, and for the device to be functional as an aid to learning.

In 2014 students in Year 9 will be expected to bring their own personal device to school every day. The school has embedded significant emphasis on the integration of technology into learning programs in Years 9 – 12, and the use of a personal computing device will allow these initiatives to continue.

Students in Years 10 – 12 in 2014 have previously been issued with a DER laptop. Students in these years may also have their own computing device which they prefer to use, rather than using the DER laptop. These students will be encouraged to bring their preferred device to school and return their DER laptop for use by the school in providing access to digital learning for other students.

Students in Years 7 and 8 in 2014 will be strongly encouraged to bring their own computing device to school every day.
BYOD FAQs

What is BYOD?
Bring Your Own Device or BYOD is a strategy which allows students to use their own personal digital devices within the school and class environments for learning. One of the main features of this program is free access to the Department of Education and Communities’ filtered internet service through the school’s Wi-Fi network.

Why use BYOD?
Research indicates the potential for students to use connected digital devices to deepen learning, make learning more personalised and student-centred and to enhance development of 21st century learning skills.  http://bit.ly./BYODLiReview

How do I connect to the school’s network?
Prior to bringing a personal device for the first time, students and their parents will need to read and sign a BYOD Student User Agreement which will set out the responsibilities and expectations for use of the personal device at Burwood Girls High School.

What type of device can we bring?
BYOD is designed to give students and families freedom to make technology choices that suit them and their circumstances.

The device must meet the minimum device requirements for both connection to the school Wi-Fi network, and for the device to be functional as an aid to learning.

Many students have already indicated that they have a suitable device. Parents and students considering the purchase of a computing device should ensure that it meets the minimum device requirements.

What about the cost of a tablet or laptop?
The purchase of a device can be a significant expense but when the cost of a quality device is viewed over three to four years, the expense is considerably less. Many teachers feel that a tablet device may be the most appropriate for learning in Years 7 to 9.

Burwood Girls High School places significant emphasis on the integration of technology into many aspects of teaching and learning. The school is committed to its obligation as a public education institution to deliver the same learning outcomes for all our students no matter their families' financial means. The school is developing a number of strategies which will ensure access to information and communication technologies for all students.

BGHS BYOD Program Documents:

> BYOD Minimum Device Requirements
> BYOD Student User Agreement (available soon)
> BYOD Equity Policy (available soon)