ST THOMAS'S SCHOOL

Bring Your Own Device Policy

General Information

BYOD is required for all students in years 5 – 8. Access to the St. Thomas's wireless network via a personal device is filtered by an approved Ministry of Education service provider.

Access to the St. Thomas's wireless network is a privilege, not a right. Any use of the wireless network entails personal responsibility and compliance with 'St. Thomas's School Student Responsible Use Agreement'.

St. Thomas's School reserves the right to monitor internet use by students, collect data on usage and conduct investigations if inappropriate usage is suspected.

Guidelines

1. Use of personal devices during the school day is at the discretion of teachers and staff. Students must use devices as directed by their teacher.
2. The primary purpose of the use of personal devices at school is educational.
3. The use of a personal device is not to be a distraction in any way to teachers or students. Personal devices must not disrupt class in any way.
4. The use of personal devices falls under the conditions of the 'St. Thomas's School Student Responsible Use Agreement'.
5. Students will make no attempts to circumvent the school's network security and / or filtering policies. This includes setting up proxies, VPNs and downloading programmes to bypass security.
6. Students will not capture or distribute voice, pictures or videos of students or staff without their permission, (distribution can be as small as emailing / texting to one other person or as large as posting an image or video online).
7. St. Thomas's School reserves the right to monitor activity of users of the network.

Consequences for Misuse/Disruption (one or more may apply)

1. Access to device removed for the remainder of the day.
2. Device removed and kept in the front office until parent/caregiver picks it up.
3. St. Thomas School reserve the right to conduct a more thorough search of the device.
4. Privilege of using personal devices at school denied.
5. Involve the School Disciplinary System.
6. Disciplinary referral. This may involve informing the appropriate external agencies/authorities, including the NZ Police. And / or Netsafe.

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School Liability Statement

Students bring their devices to use at St. Thomas's School at their own risk.
It is the responsibility of the individual owner, to keep the device secure, charged and with up-to-date virus protection installed on the device.

St. Thomas's School Board and staff are in no way responsible for:

1. Personal devices (including all peripherals) that are broken while at school or during school-sponsored activities.
2. Personal devices (including all peripherals) that are lost or stolen at school or during school-sponsored activities.
3. Maintenance or upkeep of any device (keeping it charged, installing updates or upgrades, fixing any software or hardware issues).

Ratified by Board

Signed _____

Date 15/1/26

Reviewed: November 2026 **Next Review:** November 2029