



KINROSS WOLAROI
— SCHOOL —

BYOD POLICY AND PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Learning Technology 2026



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Introduction

Kinross Wolaroi School (KWS) integrates technology into the learning environment to support educational achievement, digital literacy, creativity, and collaboration. This document outlines the BYOD policy, student responsibilities, and details about the Supported Laptop Program.

Educational Philosophy: Technology Enhances Learning

At KWS, technology is used to assist and enhance learning—not to drive it. The use of digital devices is determined by individual teachers and curriculum needs, ensuring that technology supports, rather than dictates, classroom experiences.

From 2026, all Senior School BYOD laptops are required to have the School's BYOD App Store – 'Company Portal' installed

Through our strategic partnership with Microsoft the School is committed to delivering a safe and secure BYOD program that keeps students' laptops ready for learning.

- **Company Portal** enables students to access and manage School provided software applications on their BYOD device through one easy to navigate curated App Store.
- **Company Portal** provides secure access to the School's BYOD Wi-Fi network.
- The IT team will use **Company Portal** during exam periods (e.g. **NAPLAN**) to ensure students have access to the correct software to complete examinations.

Families are reminded to carefully check the minimum laptop specifications and ask for help (support@kws.nsw.edu.au) if you are not sure if the device you are planning to buy is suitable.

More information about the capabilities of Company Portal can be found in the **Frequently Asked Questions** section at the end of this document.

BYOD Program Overview

- All students in Years 7–12 must bring a laptop that meets the school's minimum laptop specifications.
- The BYOD program ensures access to necessary resources for homework, independent learning, and all subject areas—both in school and at home (including boarding).
- **Laptops are required**; phones, tablets, Chromebook, and iPads do not meet the BYOD policy requirements.
- All BYOD laptops must be enrolled with **Company Portal**.

Student Responsibilities

- Arrive each day with a fully charged laptop.
- Adhere to the KWS Student Digital Agreement at all times.
- Always care for their own property and the property of others.
- Keep Company Portal installed for effective delivery of School applications.



Supported Laptop Program

Kinross Wolaroi School offers a Supported Laptop Program as an alternative to families purchasing and supporting, repairing and configuring their own devices.

Families wishing to purchase a supported BYOD laptop can do so by ordering through our technology partner Centorrino Technologies – [CLICK HERE](#)

The supported laptop program is recommended to all families but particularly those with a student starting Year 7 or in Boarding at the School.

- Students receive a laptop that meets all school requirements, with all necessary software installed including Company Portal.
- The School provides full technical support from the IT Helpdesk such as school software support and hardware assistance.
- If your device requires service or repairs the IT Helpdesk will organise this with the laptop manufacturer on behalf of families while providing priority access to a 'hot-swap' spare laptop while repairs are underway.
- Supported laptops are eligible for the 'supported' status while the warranty and accidental damage repair insurance remains active – 3 years from the date of original purchase.
- Spare and replacement accessories (e.g. chargers) are available for purchase through the [BYOD store](#) at any time throughout the year and can be delivered by the IT Helpdesk directly to students

Families who have previously purchased a supported BYOD laptop that is more than 3 years old should be aware that the warranty and accidental damage protection has now expired.

You have the choice of either purchasing a new supported BYOD laptop, sourcing your own BYOD laptop that meets the minimum requirements set out in the BYOD policy or continuing to use the laptop without the benefits of the supported laptop program.

Laptop Specifications

Laptops are required; phones, tablets, Chromebook, and iPads do not meet the BYOD policy requirements.

All laptops must meet or exceed the following minimum specifications:

1. **Operating System:** Windows 11 or macOS 14 (Sonoma or later)
2. **Processor:** Intel Core i5 (released last 5 years) or M1 Macbook or newer
3. **Memory:** 8GB (16GB Recommended)
4. **Storage:** 256GB Solid State Drive (SSD)
5. **Wireless:** Must be capable of connecting to **Wi-Fi 6** (802.11ax) **5GHz** wireless networks
6. **Battery:** Minimum 7 hours battery life – in classroom charging is not available

Only devices meeting these specifications can connect to the school network, register with Company Portal, and be used for learning at the School.

The following software is provided to all senior school students **free of charge**,

- Microsoft 365 for Students including desktop applications
- Adobe Creative Cloud
- Other Education applications published to Company Portal



Mobile phones and Smart watches

To support students' learning and positive wellbeing, students in Years 7 – 12 are not permitted to have a mobile phone on their person during the school day.

Similarly, the use of smart watches or other wearable devices for communication, social media and entertainment is not permitted.

For more information, please review the **Student Mobile Phone Policy** on The Hub.

ICT Support Levels

Supported BYOD Devices: Full support for hardware as covered under the warranty and accidental damage protection policy, School software issues, priority access to temporary 'hot-swap' laptop replacements during warranty and repairs for the duration of the warranty period (3 years from date of purchase).

Unsupported BYOD Devices: Limited support, which includes basic troubleshooting and access to the school help desk. No charge applies, but support is restricted to general advice and minor fixes – short term loans as available.

Getting a BYOD laptop ready for learning at Kinross Wolaroi School

Families who have opted into the supported laptop program receive a laptop that is setup and ready for learning and do not need to complete the steps outlined below.

BYOD Onboarding to the School is managed by Microsoft's Company Portal and can be completed from anywhere (home or at School). Students are encouraged to complete this onboarding prior to the first day of class, so they arrive ready for learning.

Prerequisites

- You know your KWS Student Microsoft account username and password
 - Note: Students new to the School will be sent their School username / password in the lead up to Term 1, 2026
- Login to The Hub with your student account - [HERE](#)
- Access the BYOD Software Guide on The Hub – [HERE](#)

Windows Laptops

Open the Microsoft Store and Search for "Company Portal" or [CLICK HERE](#) to open this automatically on your Windows laptop.

Follow the Windows setup guide on the BYOD Software Guide Hub page [HERE](#).

MacOS Laptops

Mac Students - [CLICK HERE](#) – Double-click on the 'Company Portal.pkg' file which downloads and follow setup guide [HERE](#).

During the first day of Term 1, 2026 dedicated onboarding sessions will be run for Year 7 students to confirm the above has been completed successfully.



Limited group onboarding sessions will be offered in the lead up to Term1, 2026 – contact support@kws.nsw.edu.au if you require further support or assistance with the onboarding your BYOD laptop through Company Portal.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why does the School recommend 3 years of warranty and accidental damage protection?

The School recommends 3 years of warranty and accidental damage protection to ensure student devices stay ready for learning and minimize disruptions. If families choose an unsupported BYOD laptop, they should have a plan for repairs—such as how to fix a broken screen—since the School is unable to facilitate unsupported BYOD repairs on behalf of families.

What happens when a supported laptop's 3 years of warranty and protection runs out?

After the 3-year warranty and accidental damage protection (ADP) period ends, we strongly recommend that families consider purchasing a new, supported BYOD laptop. Once the warranty and ADP have expired, students no longer have access to helpdesk-facilitated warranty repairs or support from the School, which may result in longer downtime or additional repair costs if the device encounters issues. Upgrading to a new supported device ensures continued access to school assistance and minimizes learning disruptions.

What is included under the accidental damage protection for supported BYOD laptops?

Dell Accidental Damage Protection is service that covers repairs for unexpected damage like drops, spills, and electrical surges that are not covered by the standard warranty for 3 years from the date of purchase.

Coverage includes one qualified incident per 12-month period, with options for repair or replacement.

The IT helpdesk manages this process on behalf of families with a priority hot-swap spare laptop provided while repairs are carried out.

If a laptop repair is not covered by the warranty or accidental damage protection policy families will be given a quote from the manufacturer for approval before proceeding (e.g. 2 accidental damage incidents within less than 12 months of each other).

What happens when a supported laptop runs out of warranty (3 years)?

You have the choice of either purchasing a new supported BYOD laptop, sourcing your own BYOD laptop that meets the minimum requirements set out in the BYOD policy or continuing to use the laptop without the benefits of the supported laptop program.

Are accessories included with a supported laptop purchase?

A charger is included with the laptop however additional optional accessories are also available at the time of purchase or at any point throughout the School year from the BYOD store.

Microsoft Company Portal FAQ

Microsoft Company Portal allows Windows and macOS BYOD devices access to the following software and ICT services provided by Kinross Wolaroi School:

- Enables access to a curated list of BYOD software applications including exam browsers for NAPLAN
- Allows students the ability to remove the device from Company Portal at any time
- Allows students the ability to 'factory reset' a lost or stolen device



- Provides students with the ability to self-manage which school software is installed on their device
- Provides limited device information to the Kinross ICT Team, such as device name, device serial number, model, manufacturer, operating system name and version.
- What Company Portal does not do:
 - Does not monitor student use of the BYOD device
 - Does not track a student's location
 - Does not collect information on personal software applications
 - Does not remove personal software applications.

If you have any questions or concerns about Microsoft Company Portal, please feel free to reach out to the team by emailing support@kws.nsw.edu.au