VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOLS
BYOT
BRING YOUR OWN TECHNOLOGY

Version 5   **2016-17**

Parent & Student Guide

About this guide

Within this guide, you will find important information and frequently asked questions related to the Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) program in Volusia County Schools.

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For more information, visit our website:
http://myvolusiaschools.org/learn-tech/Pages/BYOT.aspx

What is the Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) program?

BYOT is an innovative educational program in which students can use the technology they already own as an instructional tool under their teacher's supervision.

Our mission in Volusia County schools is to prepare students with the skills and knowledge needed for success in our democratic society. Upon graduation, students enter a wide range of working situations that require technology skills. The BYOT program empowers students and teachers to leverage students' existing personal technology as a learning tool to expand the classroom beyond four walls and school gates.

By allowing students to access a wireless network, the BYOT program encourages students to bring their personal Wi-Fi-enabled smartphones, tablets, netbooks, and laptops to class so teachers can govern the use of these tools to foster the development of skills that will prepare our students for the 21st century.

Curriculum & BYOT

- Free and educational Web 2.0 tools are available online for teachers to create engaging learning environments.
- Students will have the opportunity to create websites, multimedia posters, podcasts (audio recording), and videos.
- Some of these tools require student accounts controlled by the teacher.
- Open-communication is encouraged between parents, students and teachers.
- Web 2.0 tools will make sharing student projects easier.

Community & BYOT

The purpose of the BYOT program is to increase classroom access to technology. Teachers may create online spaces, such as wikis, where students can display and share what they have learned. Students understand that others may view their work as established by their teacher. Students are restricted from revealing any personal information.

In today's connected and technology-rich world, it is important to be a good digital citizen. This means students should:

- Communicate positively with classmates, both face-to-face and online.
- Stay on-topic and post respectfully.

- Never post pictures or video of people on campus to the Internet, especially on social-networking sites. Remember, anything online is subject to being read and accessed by a large audience – even if you think it is deleted!
- Never share your password or post it online anywhere! Notify your teacher immediately if a password is lost or stolen, or if you have reason to believe that someone has accessed your account.
- Never login to another person's user account.

Parent Tips for BYOT

Often times the question is asked, 'What kind of device works best in a BYOT classroom?' In order to answer this question, Volusia County Schools works diligently to provide resources that are device agnostic, so that access can be accomplished on a wider range of device types such as: smartphones, tablets, and laptops.

Parent Resources for Digital Citizenship and Internet Safety

In today's connected and technology-rich world, it is important to be a good digital citizen! This means students should:

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Open communication is very important as students begin to access more technology and communicate online. Parents may find the following resources useful for teaching digital citizenship and Internet safety:

Internet Privacy:
https://www.commonsensemedia.org/privacy-and-internet-safety

Parent Tip Video:
http://www.commonsensemedia.org/videos/protecting-kids-privacy-online

Digital Citizenship #1:
http://www.commonsensemedia.org/advice-for-parents/be-good-digital-citizen-tips-teens-and-parents

Digital Citizenship #2:
http://www.commonsensemedia.org/advice-for-parents/internet-safety-rules-road-kids

The same procedures and school rules apply to using call phones and other electronic devices during class. If students are participating in the BYOT program, teachers will monitor and give permission for students to use their device at certain times in class. Students are only permitted to use their mobile device for programs, websites, and tools specified by their teacher. If your teacher finds you using your mobile device for off-task activities, you may lose your privilege to use your device at your teacher's discretion. Please see the school rules in your **Volusia County Schools Electronic Information Systems Acceptable Use Agreement for Students (VCS EIS AUA) [2014-15 VCS] and Student Code of Conduct.**

- When students use the **free** BYOT Wi-Fi network at school, there are **NO** data charges for parents.
- The BYOT network uses a filter so students are only able to access the same sites that they would be able to visit when using a VCS computer.
- Students should only access websites and Web 2.0 applications as instructed by their teacher.
- Students must adhere to the **VCS Electronic Information Systems Acceptable Use Agreement for Students (VCS EIS AUA) [2014-15 VCS] and Student Code of Conduct.**
- Teachers are facilitators using the technology for teacher and learning. It is not the responsibility of the teacher to spend instructional time on technical issues.
- Students may need to refer to their device's User's Manual for technical issues, such as how to detect wireless networks.
- Volusia County Schools User Support/Helpdesk does not provide technical support for any personal device.

BYOT Network & Technical Specifications

Student devices must have Wi-Fi capabilities. Students WILL NOT be required to use data plans/subscriptions to the Internet or SMS (text) messaging that require a fee if they are connected to the BYOT network. Students may bring devices that meet the specifications below, have Wi-Fi capabilities, and contain a web browser so that they can connect to the filtered network within their classroom.

Recommended Specifications
Laptops/Netbooks/Ultrabooks:
- Windows 7, 8.1, or 10
- Mac OS 10.8 or above
- Current virus scanner: Free programs available, such as, http://free.avg.com

Smartphones/tablets:
- iOS (iPhone, iPod, iPad)
- Android
- Windows

Wireless:
- 802.11 B (802.11 N or higher)

Browser:
- Internet Explorer 11, Safari, Chrome, or Firefox

Other:
- Headset jack with headphones
- Storage bag for carrying
- Protection cover
- Password or login protection
- Knowledge of how to connect to Wi-Fi

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Does my student have to participate in the BYOT program?

Students are not required to bring technology. Schools will have plans in place for students who do not bring technology to school. The BYOT program provides another opportunity to increase access to technology in our schools. Teachers can use these tools to foster the development of 21st century skills, including creativity, critical thinking, citizenship skills, and adherence to copyright. These are skills students require to become successful members of tomorrow's society.

What forms are needed for BYOT?

In order for your student to actively participate in the Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) program, the Electronic Information Services Acceptable Use Agreement for Students Form 2015-16 VCS must be on file. Each school provides a copy of this form.

Can the students access any websites on their device?

Students should use the BYOT network. The content on this network will be subject to our filter system, which fulfills Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requirements. Students must adhere to the VCS EIS AUA for Students [2015-16 VCS] and only access websites and Web 2.0 applications as instructed by their teacher.

Will my student be able to print from their personal device?

One of the benefits of the BYOT program is the option to transition to a paperless environment (for many assignments). You will not have access to a printer from your device.

Can students charge their devices at school?

As a student in the BYOT program, please have the device fully charged at the beginning of the school day.

How will my student submit their assignments from their device?

Depending on the assignment, it may be necessary for the student to save a file to their OneDrive account made available through their Office 365 account or you may be working with web-based applications, such as Edmodo. These web-based applications will save your files to the Internet and/or give you a URL link that you can submit to your teacher for a grade. Each teacher may collect assignments differently so it is important to contact the teacher for the assignment expectations.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What happens if technology is lost or stolen?

Schools are not responsible for theft or damage to a student's device. Students are responsible for bringing their personal technology back and forth to school every day and taking the proper precautions to ensure device safety.

Tips to avoid theft:
- Students should NOT share their devices or leave devices unoccupied.
- Cases and covers for devices are encouraged to personalize devices and protect them from damage.
- Write your student's name on their device's case/cover before bringing the device to school.
- Schools will also establish procedures appropriate to their environment, including whether or not devices will be stored at school during transitions throughout the day, discipline procedures, and parent communications.

In some schools and classrooms, teachers have a lockable cabinet to store devices during transitions to special area or lunch. Some teachers may use check-in sheets to help students keep track of their device. Some teachers also take a picture of the device and attach that image to the child's locked space.

How do I find out if my student's school is participating in the BYOT program?

A list of BYOT schools is available here: http://myvolusiaschools.org/learn-tech/Pages/BYOT.aspx

BYOT may be implemented slightly differently at each school. It is important to contact your student's teacher and/or administrator at the school to learn more about the BYOT program and its expectations of use.

Browser – a software application installed on a device used to view websites. Internet Explorer 11, Safari, Chrome, and Mozilla Firefox are common examples.

BYOT – Acronym which stands for "Bring You Own Technology." The BYOT Program allows students whose teachers are participating in the BYOT program to Bring their own personal technology and use their personal devices as a learning Tool in the classroom.

CIPA – Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

Edmodo – secure, educational social platform that allows for collaboration and communication between teachers, students, and parents. For more information: www.edmodo.com

Electronic Information Services Acceptable Use Agreement for Students Form 2015-16 VCS – this is the document required for students to use district Technology. Schools provide a copy of this form upon request and through the first week of school packet.

OneDrive – a storage drive available from a student's Office 365 account made available from Volusia County. The storage limit is set to 1 TB (terabyte) for each student. Use of OneDrive allows for students to save, share, and create Microsoft Work, PowerPoint, Excel, OneNote, and Sway documents from any browser, and on any device.

Wi-Fi or Wireless Connection – a device can connect to a wireless network (at A BYOT school site, this network is free). Connecting to the BYOT network does not affect the use of a students' data plan for 3G or 4G if there is a plan associated with the device.

Web 2.0 tools – this term refers to the many resources that are now available online that individuals can use to easily create and publish online; examples of Web 2.0 tools are wiki websites, blogs, word cloud creators, online collaborative environments, audio recording websites, etc.