

How Might My Child Use a Device?

When, why and how often your child uses a device depends on a variety of factors. Teachers will notify parents when devices will be used in class.

Here are some ways a student might use his/her device in school:

- Accessing websites/research
- Blended Learning
- Calculation/graphing activities
- Curriculum based games/apps
- Documentation creation and editing
- Mapping
- Note taking
- MS Office productivity
- Online manipulatives
- Photography and video creation
- Planner/calendar
- Video conferencing
- Vocabulary development
- Accessing wikis, blogs, podcasts



"Do not be afraid of new technologies! These rank among the marvelous things—inter mirifica—which God has placed at our disposal to discover, to use and to make known the truth."

– St. John Paul



Excellence | Equity | New Evangelization

Durham Catholic
District School Board

Bring Your Own Device
(BYOD)

A Guide for Parents
and Guardians



Learning and Living in Faith

Our Mission:

We are called to celebrate and nurture the God-given talents of each student as we serve with excellence in the light of Christ.



Teaching and Learning



What is BYOD?

BYOD means students bring their own electronic devices to school for educational purposes. Students are expected to use devices responsibly, and only with the permission and direction of teachers or other staff members.

Why BYOD?

Research indicates that the use of technology increases engagement, which leads to improved student success. Here are some reasons why BYOD works well:

- Students are usually experts in the device they have and can customize it to suit their learning needs.
- Students can use it to learn anytime, anywhere.
- Students can collaborate and work anytime; before school, after school, and at lunchtime.
- Student-owned devices are often more up-to-date than those which schools provide due to the cost of replacing hardware for the entire system.



Digital Citizenship

Our students are going to live and work in a world where people use electronic devices regularly. They need to learn how to use devices in a respectful, responsible and ethical manner. The Durham Catholic District School Board's BYOD procedures, School Codes of Conduct and Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations will guide teachers in the process of teaching students what it means to be good digital citizens.

Equity of Access

Not every parent can, or wants to send their child to school with an electronic device. Teachers will continue to plan lessons that do not require the use of a personally owned device. Teachers are encouraged to give advanced notice when they plan to incorporate electronic devices into a lesson. Students without devices will have the opportunity to work collaboratively with other students or borrow a school device.

Keeping Devices Secure

Schools will have plans in place to help students keep their devices secured. Ultimately, students are responsible for lost, stolen, and or damaged personal electronic devices, just as they are for other personal items they bring to school.

"The internet, in particular, offers immense possibilities for encounter and solidarity. This is something truly good, a gift from God."

– Pope Francis

If you plan to send your child to school with a device, please consider the following:

- Purchase a protective case.
- Enable the built-in locator if the device has one.
- Protect the device with a password and tell your child not to share his/her password with others.

Free Wireless Network

Students are required to use the Board's wireless network, which they can access at no cost while at school. They will not be permitted to access their paid data plans while in school.

The Durham Catholic District School Board's network filter will help prevent students from accessing inappropriate web content while they are logged in at school.

Wi-Fi and Your Child's Health

The safety of the students and staff working in our schools is always a top priority for the Board. To this end, we have consulted with various health experts regarding the use of Wi-Fi. Public Health Ontario states that among the numerous studies on radio frequency exposure and its impacts on human health, there is no evidence of negative health effects.

