



Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy

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Rationale

At Emirates International School Meadows (EISM), we recognise that technology is an integral part of life and education. We are committed to a learning environment that provides access to appropriate technology to enhance learning, unlock potential and connect students locally and globally. Students and staff have access to high-speed internet across the school, and approved personal devices may be used in accordance with this policy. The Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy supports the development of the digital literacy, responsibility and judgement required to thrive in a digital world.

How does BYOD support learning?

Student-centred learning is a key feature of an IB education, and BYOD supports this philosophy by giving students opportunities to take responsibility for their own learning and develop the attributes of the IB Learner Profile.

Our aim at EISM is for students to learn with technology, rather than learning from technology. The use of BYOD supports key contemporary learning skills including:

- Accessing, filtering and processing information.
- Planning and organising.
- Making choices and decisions.
- Facing challenges and problem-solving.
- Risk-taking and overcoming challenges.
- Collaborating and sharing.
- Being creative and innovative.
- Reflecting.

This policy applies to any personal device that is not owned or supplied by the school and is brought onto the school premises or used to access the EISM wireless network. Its purpose is to establish clear expectations for safe, responsible and purposeful use while protecting students, learning and the integrity and security of the EISM network.

The policy should be read alongside the BYOD Parent & Student Agreement in Appendix 1. Where operational expectations are updated and communicated to families, the current published agreement will apply.

Which devices are suitable for BYOD?

At EISM, students may bring an approved educational device that meets the school's published requirements. Approved device types include a suitable laptop, iPad or tablet.

The device is funded and owned by the student's family but must meet EISM security and learning requirements. Chromebooks and similar ChromeOS-based devices are not permitted because they may not support the full range of school-required software, security requirements and learning platforms. Mobile/smart phones are not considered educational devices under this policy and must follow the school's expectations for mobile phones.

All devices must be capable of connecting securely to the EISM wireless network, allow the required EISM firewall/security certificate to be installed, run the applications and software required for learning, and remain up to date with appropriate operating system and security updates.

The recommended devices at Emirates International School Meadows are as follows:

Programme (Year)	Preferred Device
PYP Years 2-4	Suitable iPad/tablet
PYP Years 5-6 and MYP Years 7-11	Suitable laptop, iPad or tablet as appropriate to learning needs
DP/CP Years 12-13	Suitable MS Windows laptop or MacBook

Laptop/Tablet Specifications

Windows Recommended:

- Not older than 3 years.
- At least 8 GB of RAM.
- At least 4 + hour battery life.
- Working Wi-Fi.
- Windows 11 or above.
- Up-to-date antivirus and security protection, where supported by the device; no prohibited or restricted VPNs, software or tools installed or in use.

MacBook Recommended:

- Not older than 3 years.
- Latest updated Mac OS.
- At least 1 GB of RAM.
- At least 4 + hour battery life.
- Working Wi-Fi.
- Up-to-date antivirus and security protection, where supported by the device; no prohibited or restricted VPNs, software or tools installed or in use.

Tablet/iPad:

- Not older than 3 years.
- The device is running an up-to-date operating system.
- At least four hours of battery life.
- Working Wi-Fi.
- A 10" screen or larger.
- A protective case. In Year 4 and above please have a case with a keyboard. On screen keyboards require screen space.
- Up-to-date antivirus and security protection, where supported by the device; no prohibited or restricted VPNs, software or tools installed or in use.

Laptop/Tablet Capabilities

Laptops and Tablets should have the following capabilities to ensure students can access various learning activities:

- Word processing (e.g. Word, Pages or Google Docs).
- Spreadsheet capabilities (e.g. Excel, Numbers or Google Sheets).
- Cloud storage, including Google Drive.
- Chrome or compatible web browser.
- Voice recording capabilities.
- Video recording/editing.

Students using personal devices will be required to download specific applications as directed by their teachers to support classroom learning. This may also include the installation of Mobile Device Management (MDM) software to ensure compliance with school IT policies and security standards.

Devices must not contain or use applications, software, VPNs, tools or other technology that is prohibited or restricted under UAE laws and regulations, or that is designed to bypass, disable or interfere with EISM network filtering, monitoring or security systems.

*Please note that some software or applications may require a paid subscription.

Are there restrictions on the use of my device?

Personal devices may be used at school for educational purposes only and at the discretion of the teacher and the school. Students must access the internet only through the school-approved network. Access to other school systems or printers is not automatically provided.

Any use of the wireless network entails personal responsibility and compliance with all school rules and policies.

Will I receive technical support?

All students will receive the necessary assistance and guidance to set up Wi-Fi access and install curriculum-related applications. However, due to the large number of devices in the school, ongoing maintenance and technical support will remain the responsibility of the user.

BYOD Policy Agreement

Policy Statement:

Emirates International School Meadows (EISM) provides students with access to the school's wireless network and permits approved personal devices to be brought to school to support learning. The BYOD Agreement in Appendix 1 sets out the expectations that apply to students and parents.

EISM may update its BYOD expectations during the school year where necessary. Any significant changes will be communicated to students and parents.

General Usage

Students may bring an approved laptop, iPad or tablet to school as an educational tool. Chromebooks and similar ChromeOS-based devices are not permitted. Mobile/smart phones are not considered educational devices under the BYOD Agreement and must follow the school's expectations for mobile phones.

Each device must have the required EISM firewall/security certificate installed and, where supported, appropriate antivirus and security protection must remain active and up to date. Students must use their EISM student email account while at school; personal or parent email accounts must not be used.

- Students must obtain permission from the teacher before using a personal device during the school day.
- Students may access the internet, take notes, use word-processing tools and undertake other approved activities at the teacher's discretion. Use of a personal device must support learning.
- Students must turn off and put away a personal device when requested by a teacher.
- Students may use their personal device before or after school only in designated or appropriately supervised areas.
- The device must only be used for educational purposes during these times.
- The school may collect and examine any device at any time for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this agreement, investigating student discipline issues, or for any other school-related purpose.

Mobile/smart phones should remain at home wherever possible. If brought to school, they must be stored and used only in accordance with the school's expectations for mobile phones.

The use of all personal devices at school remains at the discretion of the teacher and the school.

Expected Student Behaviours and Responsibility:

- Personal devices remain the responsibility of the student and their parent/guardian. EISM cannot accept responsibility for personal devices that are lost, stolen or damaged while brought onto the school premises, except where responsibility arises under applicable law.
- Students who bring a device to school are responsible for looking after it appropriately.
- Students and their parents/guardians should take reasonable measures to protect devices from loss, theft or damage.
- Students should take all reasonable measures to protect against the theft or damage of their personal device.
- Students must only access the internet through the school-approved network and in accordance with staff instructions.
- Students must only access appropriate information, images, videos, data and other content while connected to the network.
- Students must keep passwords secure, must not share accounts or allow another student to access their device, and must follow all staff instructions relating to technology use.

Students must never share personal information about themselves or others online, including:

- Addresses, telephone numbers, passwords or other private information.

- Arrangements to meet someone contacted online, unless this forms part of an approved school activity and is supervised by staff.
- Photographs, videos or audio recordings of another person without permission.
- Any permitted photography, video or audio recording must be directly related to learning and must respect privacy, safeguarding and media-consent expectations.
- Students must immediately report any threatening, upsetting, inappropriate or concerning online material or communication to a member of staff.
- Students must not buy, sell, advertise or conduct personal business using the school network.
- Students must not play games during the school day unless specifically directed by a teacher as part of learning.
- Students must not use instant messaging or social media applications during the school day. They must not email or message parents during lessons or the school day without staff permission.
- Students must not message other students during school hours unless specifically authorised for educational purposes.
- Students must not use their device to bully, intimidate, embarrass, harass or upset another person, and must not share photographs, videos or recordings of students or staff without permission.

Physical Security

Users should take the following physical security preventative measures:

- The device must be kept in a suitable protective case.
- Both the device and its case should be clearly labelled with the student's name.

Inappropriate or repeated misuse may result in the device being removed for a period of time, parents being contacted, the student losing the privilege of using or bringing a personal device to school, and/or further action under the school's Behaviour, Safeguarding or IT procedures.

Parent Information

Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that any device brought to school meets the requirements of this policy and the BYOD Agreement in Appendix 1.

- A device that has a case.
- The device with my child/ children's name and class.
- Not accessed their personal email at school.
- To keep their device safe, they will carry it carefully making sure it remains inside the case and will also pack it safely at the end of the school day.
- Listened to their teacher and make sure that they know when to use my device.
- Kept their passwords and personal information safe.
- Only taken photographs that are appropriate for their work, and will always ask for permission.
- Shared with an adult if they feel something on their device is not appropriate.
- Not used their device as a means to be unkind or hurtful to other students.
- Followed all of the expectations in the BYOD policy and understand that if they don't, they will not be able to use their device.

Parent Agreement

By sending a child to school with a personal device, the parent/guardian confirms that they have read, understood and agree to the EISM BYOD expectations. There is no need to sign or return anything if they agree.

If a parent/guardian does not agree, the child must not bring a personal device to school and the parent/guardian must complete the link provided with the BYOD Agreement.

Roles and Responsibilities

Students are responsible for using devices safely, responsibly and only as directed. Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring devices meet published requirements. Teachers establish when and how devices support learning. The IT Team manages network access, security certificates and technical requirements, while ongoing maintenance of personal devices remains the responsibility of the user. Leaders will monitor implementation and address repeated or serious misuse in accordance with relevant school policies.

Links to other Policies

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Behaviour

Health & Safety

Academic Integrity

IT

Electronic Addiction



BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)

Parent & Student Agreement

Supporting safe, responsible and purposeful use of technology for learning.

Emirates International School Meadows (EISM) allows students to bring an approved personal device to school to support their learning and access the school's wireless network. This agreement sets out the expectations for the safe, responsible and appropriate use of personal devices at school.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

From Wednesday 9th August 2026, by sending your child to school with a personal device, you confirm that you have read, understood and agree to the expectations in this document.

You do not need to sign or return anything if you agree.

If you do not agree, your child must not bring a personal device to school and you must complete the link on the email this document was attached to.

EISM may update its BYOD expectations during the school year where necessary. Any significant changes will be communicated to students and parents.

Approved Devices

Students may bring an appropriate educational device to school, such as a laptop, iPad or tablet.

Chromebooks and similar ChromeOS-based devices are not permitted, as they may not support the full range of school-required software, security requirements and learning platforms.

All devices brought to school must:

- Have up-to-date antivirus and security protection installed and active, where supported by the device.
- Be capable of connecting securely to the EISM wireless network.
- Allow the required EISM firewall/security certificate to be installed.
- Be capable of running the applications and software required for learning.
- Be kept up to date with appropriate operating system and security updates.
- Not contain or use any applications, software, VPNs, tools or other technology that is prohibited or restricted under UAE laws and regulations.

Parents are responsible for ensuring that their child's device meets these requirements before it is brought to school.

MOBILE / SMART PHONES

Mobile/smart phones are not considered educational devices under this agreement. Phones should remain at home wherever possible or if brought to school, the expectations for mobile phones are followed.

The use of all personal devices at school remains at the discretion of the teacher and the school.

Using a Device at School

- Only use their device when directed or given permission by a member of staff.
- Use their device for educational purposes only during the school day.
- Immediately close or put away their device when requested by a member of staff.
- Only access the internet through the school-approved network.
- Have the required school firewall/security certificate installed on their device.
- Ensure required antivirus and security protection remains active and up to date.
- Use their EISM student email account while at school. Personal or parent email accounts must not be used.
- Only use devices before or after school in designated or appropriately supervised areas.
- Follow all instructions given by staff regarding the use of technology.

EISM reserves the right, where appropriate and in accordance with school procedures, to request access to or examine a device where there is a reasonable concern relating to safeguarding, student behaviour, misuse of technology or a breach of school policy.



Safe and Responsible Use

Students must use technology responsibly and appropriately at all times. Students must not:

- Access inappropriate websites, images, videos, information or other content.
- Install, access or use software, applications, VPNs, platforms or other technology that is prohibited or restricted under UAE laws and regulations.
- Use software or technology designed to bypass, disable or interfere with EISM's network, filtering, monitoring or security systems.
- Play games during the school day unless specifically directed by a teacher as part of learning.
- Use instant messaging or social media applications during the school day.
- Message other students during school hours unless specifically authorised for educational purposes.
- Email or message parents during lessons or the school day without staff permission.
- Use their device to bully, intimidate, embarrass, harass or upset another person.
- Take photographs, videos or audio recordings of another person without permission.
- Share photographs, videos or recordings of students or staff without permission.
- Buy, sell, advertise or conduct personal business using the school network.
- Share passwords or allow another student to access their account or device.

Students should never share personal information about themselves or others online, including addresses, telephone numbers, passwords or other private information. Students must immediately report any threatening, upsetting, inappropriate or concerning online material or communication to a member of staff.

Looking After the Device

Personal devices remain the responsibility of the student and their parent/guardian. EISM cannot accept responsibility for personal devices that are lost, stolen or damaged while brought onto the school premises, except where responsibility arises under applicable law.

- Keep their device in a suitable protective case.
- Clearly label both the device and case with their name.
- Carry and store their device carefully.
- Keep passwords and personal information secure.
- Ensure the device is safely packed away at the end of the school day.

Failure to Follow the Expectations

The privilege of bringing and using a personal device at school depends upon students following these expectations. Inappropriate or repeated misuse may result in:

- The device being removed from the student for a period of time.
- Parents being contacted.
- The student losing the privilege of using or bringing a personal device to school.
- Further action being taken in accordance with the school's Behaviour, Safeguarding and/or IT policies.

Agreement

By sending my child to school with a personal device from Wednesday 9th August 2026 onwards, I confirm that I have read and understood the EISM BYOD expectations above and agree that my child will follow them.

I also confirm that any device my child brings to school meets the requirements outlined above, including appropriate antivirus/security protection, and does not contain software or applications prohibited or restricted under UAE laws and regulations.

IF YOU AGREE, YOU DO NOT NEED TO COMPLETE OR RETURN ANYTHING.

If you do not agree, your child must not bring a personal device to school and you must complete the link on the email this document was attached to.