

Use of Technology Devices Including Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Guidelines and Information

The BYOD technology plan is designed to allow students to use their own electronic computing device(s) at school. Students are permitted and encouraged to use their own devices for routine classroom tasks and educational ventures. Devices acceptable for use would be laptops, tablets, iPods, most computing devices but excluding gaming devices. To participate we need both parent and student understanding of the use of technology devices in school:

- Students are responsible for the device as they would be any other piece of private property.
- The school and district are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices.
- The school and district are not required to provide support or service for student devices. (But our desire is to help them use them in the context of education and life.)
- The BYOD program is a privilege and can be revoked at any point in time.

Fort Mill Elementary School recognizes the value technology devices add to the educational experience of all students as well as aid in improving communication with parents. Therefore, the use of student owned devices including laptops, netbooks, iOS, and other technology tools are permitted for students with teacher permission. Such possession or use of the device may not, in any way,

1. Disrupt the educational process in the school district
2. Endanger the health or safety of the student or anyone else
3. Invade the rights of others at school
4. Be involved in illegal or prohibited conduct of any kind

Also, students shall not be allowed any personal use during class time nor shall they access personal data plans while in school. In addition to these guidelines, the Responsible Use Policy (RUP) of the Fort Mill School District applies to personal devices that are brought to school. This guideline is in effect while the student is on school premises. Possession or use of any device by a student is a privilege, which may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy.

Access and Appropriate Use

The purpose of having access to a technology device at school is for educational purposes only. Student devices with a data plan through a cellular provider will need to turn off this network when being used on school premises. Technical support will not be provided for personal devices. The student must take full responsibility for setting up and maintaining the device.

Safety and Security

Students who bring in technology devices do so at their own risk. Fort Mill Elementary School shall not be responsible for the safety, security, loss, or damage of personal electronic devices that students choose to bring to school. Investigation by school officials of loss, theft or damage will be minimal unless it can be established that the student adequately secured the device, such as keeping it in a locked room. Fort Mill Elementary School does not provide personal property insurance for any personally owned wireless communication devices. Such insurance can be obtained by an independent carrier.

Consequences of Appropriate Use

Loss of access to devices can occur if the school becomes concerned about its appropriate use. Examples of District concerns include safety, potential for disruption to educational processes, and security issues related to connecting a personal computer to the District network. When the devices are used on school property, they will be treated as school property. The school may examine the personal electronic devices and search its contents if there is reason to believe that school policies, rules or regulations have been violated. The building administration may involve law enforcement if the device is used for an illegal purpose or for a purpose that causes harm to others. Permission for use of a device is allowed after the Parent and Student sign the guidelines.

Please complete the information below and return it to your child's teacher when your child is ready to begin the program.

Student Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Device Description: _____

I have read the BYOD guidelines, and I grant my child permission to use the device described above in the BYOD program knowing that FMES has no responsibility in the maintenance or security of the device.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____