



DUBAI GEM PRIVATE SCHOOL

STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD) POLICY: 2025-2026



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BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)

Policy Rationale

At Dubai Gem Private School (DGPS), we are committed to nurturing independent, responsible, and future-ready learners. The Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy supports the UAE Vision 2031 (E33) by embedding digital literacy, innovation, and sustainability across our curriculum. This policy promotes responsible technology use, enhances teaching and learning, and ensures students develop the 21st-century skills necessary for success in education and life.

The policy reflects the DIPS ethos of dignity, integrity, generosity of spirit, pursuit of excellence, sincerity, and commitment. It also aligns with KHDA requirements and the standards of British curriculum schools in the UAE.

Aims and Objectives

- **Enhance Learning:** Enable students to access, create, and share knowledge through safe and purposeful digital platforms.
- **Promote Well-being:** Balance digital engagement with student health, safety, and emotional well-being.
- **Foster Digital Citizenship:** Teach students to act responsibly, ethically, and respectfully in the digital world.
- **Ensure Equity:** Provide clear guidance on device specifications to minimise disparities and ensure all learners can participate fully.
- **Encourage Sustainability:** Support paperless learning where appropriate, reducing the school's environmental footprint.

Scope

This policy applies to all students, staff, and parents engaging with BYOD within DGPS. It covers:

- Device registration and use on campus
- Network access and security
- Expectations for safeguarding, behaviour, and digital citizenship
- Procedures for lost, damaged, or misused devices

Roles and Responsibilities

Students

- Use devices only under teacher supervision and for educational purposes.
- Ensure devices are fully charged and maintained daily.
- Follow the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), safeguarding protocols, and school code of conduct.

Parents

- Support students in meeting device specifications.
- Monitor children's digital use at home, in partnership with the school.
- Sign the DGPS Acceptable Use Agreement annually.

Staff

- Integrate technology purposefully into teaching and learning.
- Model safe and responsible use of technology.
- Report breaches of this policy to the SLT or IT Department.

IT Department

- Maintain secure, filtered, and reliable Wi-Fi access.
- Provide basic technical support for connectivity issues.
- Safeguard the school network against malware and unauthorised access.

Safeguarding and Well-being

DGPS places child protection and well-being at the heart of all digital practices:

- Access to social media and non-educational content is blocked during school hours.
- Students are regularly educated about e-safety, cyberbullying, and healthy screen time.
- Violations of the BYOD policy will follow the school's Behaviour Policy and may involve disciplinary measures.
- Parents are encouraged to reinforce safe online habits at home.

Network Security and Data Protection

- All devices must be registered with the IT Department.
- The school operates McAfee Enterprise, Sonicwall VPN, Sonicwall CFS, and Veeam One for network and data protection.
- Personal hotspots, tethering, or external VPNs are strictly prohibited.
- The school takes no responsibility for the security of personal devices or data stored on them.

Device Specifications

To ensure consistency and reliability, students must bring a device that:

- Has internet capability and can run core applications (Google Workspace, Microsoft Teams, Zoom, Seesaw).
- Meets the minimum specifications listed in Appendix A (updated annually).
- Is not a mobile phone, which cannot substitute as a learning device.

Procedures for Loss, Damage, or Theft

- Students are responsible for their own devices at all times.
- The school does not accept liability for lost, stolen, or damaged devices.
- Cases of theft or intentional damage will be investigated in line with school safeguarding and disciplinary procedures.

Consequences of Misuse

Any misuse of technology, including inappropriate access, cyberbullying, or breach of security protocols, will result in sanctions ranging from warnings to suspension/expulsion, in line with the school's Behaviour and Safeguarding Policies.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Principal and IT Department to ensure:

- Alignment with KHDA standards
- Relevance to UAE Vision 2031 priorities
- Reflection of best practice in British curriculum schools

APPENDIX A

GUIDELINES

Laptop Specification:

<p>2022 Apple MAC Book Pro Processor: Apple M2 chip with 10-Core CPU Hard Drive: 256 GB SSD RAM: 8 GB Display Size: 13 Inch OS: MAC OS Price Range: 4700 to 4900 AED</p>	<p>Apple MAC Book Air – M1 Processor: Apple M1 with 7-core GPU Hard Drive: 256 GB SSD RAM: 8 GB Display Size: 13 Inch OS: MAC OS Price Range: 3500 to 3700 AED</p>
<p>Lenovo – IdeaPad Processor: Intel I5 Core 11th Gen Hard Drive: 256 GB SSD RAM: 8 GB Display Size: 15.6 Inch OS: Windows 10 or 11 Antivirus: Kaspersky Internet Security. Price Range: 1700 To 1900 AED.</p>	<p>Dell – Inspiron Series Processor: Intel I5 Core 11th Gen Hard Drive: 500 GB SSD RAM: 8 GB Display Size: 15.6 Inch OS: Windows 10 or 11. Antivirus: Kaspersky Internet Security. Price Range: 2500 To 3000 AED</p>
<p>HP – 250 G8 Processor: Intel I5 Core 11th Gen Hard Drive: 256 GB SSD RAM: 8 GB Display Size: 15.6 Inch OS: Windows 10 or 11. Antivirus: Kaspersky Internet Security. Price Range: 1500 To 1700 AED</p>	

Tablet Specification:

<p>Apple - IPAD AIR (4th Gen) Brand: Apple Processor: Apple A14 Bionic CPU Speed: 3 GHz RAM: 4 GB Storage: 64 GB Internal Display: Retina display 10.9 Inch OS: IOS 14 Price Range: 1600 to 1800 AED</p>	<p>iPad 9th Generation Brand: Apple Processor: Apple A13 Bionic CPU Speed: 2.65 GHz RAM: 3 GB Storage: 64 GB Internal Display: Retina display 10.2 Inch OS: IOS 15 Price Range: 1200 to 1500 AED</p>
<p>Samsung Galaxy Tab S7 FE Brand : Samsung Processor: Qualcomm Snapdragon 750G RAM: 4 GB Storage: 64 GB Display: 12.4 Inch OS: Android Price Range: 1400 to 1800 AED</p>	<p>Lenovo Chromebook Duet Brand: Lenovo Processor: MediaTek Helio P60T RAM: 4 GB Storage: 128 GB Display: 10.1 Inch OS: Chrome OS Price Range: 900 To 1200 AED</p>

Teaching, Learning, and Curriculum Integration

The BYOD policy directly supports the Dubai Gem Private School Teaching and Learning Framework. Devices are integrated into lesson planning, delivery, and assessment to enhance differentiation, critical thinking, collaboration, and independent learning. Technology use is purposeful, enabling students to access, create, and share knowledge in ways that extend their mastery of the British curriculum.

Inclusion and Equity

DGPS is committed to ensuring equitable access to technology. Support will be provided for students of determination through assistive technologies such as speech-to-text, screen readers, and accessibility tools. Where families face financial challenges, the school will work with parents to explore options for access, including bursary support or temporary loan schemes where possible.

Professional Development for Staff

Teachers at DGPS receive ongoing professional development in digital pedagogy, e-safety, safeguarding, and the use of technology to support outstanding learning and teaching. Training ensures staff are confident and skilled in embedding technology in line with KHDA expectations and best international practice.

Parental Engagement

Parents are key partners in supporting safe and effective BYOD practices. DGPS will provide regular communication, guidance, and workshops to help parents monitor digital use at home. The school will share resources on e-safety, digital citizenship, and well-being to promote consistent expectations between home and school.

Sustainability and UAE Vision 2031

This BYOD policy aligns with the UAE Vision 2031 by promoting sustainability, reducing reliance on paper, and preparing students for participation in a knowledge-based, environmentally friendly economy. Students will be encouraged to use devices responsibly and to contribute to sustainable digital practices that reduce environmental impact.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The impact of this policy will be regularly evaluated using:

- Surveys of students, staff, and parents on digital learning experiences
- Behaviour and safeguarding reports related to online use
- Student attainment and progress data linked to technology integration
- Regular reviews by the SLT and IT Department to ensure effectiveness and alignment with KHDA standards

Safeguarding and Child Protection Alignment

DGPS ensures that all aspects of BYOD align with the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy. Any safeguarding concerns, including online bullying, misuse of devices, or inappropriate content, will be addressed in accordance with established safeguarding protocols. All staff are trained to identify and report digital safeguarding concerns promptly.

Optional Additions and Student Guide

To further strengthen digital well-being and international benchmarking, DGPS will:

- Introduce a Digital Well-being Charter to balance screen time with physical and social activities
- Align digital skills development with UNESCO and ISTE standards for global digital learners
- Provide students with a simplified 'Do's and Don'ts of BYOD' infographic guide to ensure clarity.

BYOD Student Guide: Do's and Don'ts

Do's

- Bring your device to school every day, fully charged.
- Use your device only for learning and under teacher supervision.
- Keep your device safe, labelled with your name, and stored securely when not in use.
- Follow the school's Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and digital citizenship guidelines.
- Report any safeguarding or cyberbullying issues immediately to a teacher or trusted adult.
- Use technology to collaborate, research, and extend your learning responsibly.
- Balance screen time with physical activity and healthy breaks.

Don'ts

- Do not use mobile phones as a substitute for your learning device.
- Do not access social media, games, or non-educational content during school hours.
- Do not share personal passwords or login details with others.
- Do not connect through hotspots, tethering, or external VPNs.
- Do not use your device to bully, harass, or share inappropriate material.
- Do not leave your device unattended or mishandle it.
- Do not install unauthorised software that may compromise security.

By following these guidelines, you help DGPS create a safe, responsible, and inspiring digital learning environment that reflects our ethos of dignity, integrity, and excellence.