Pittwater House

Year 7 2027: Transition to Pittwater House Managed Apple MacBooks

11 August 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Pittwater House, we continually review our programs and practices to ensure they best support student learning, wellbeing and development.

From the beginning of 2027, Pittwater House will move Year 7 students from the current Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) model to a School-supplied Apple MacBook program. This means Year 7 students in 2027 will be provided with a Pittwater House-managed Apple MacBook for learning and will not be required or permitted to bring their own personal device for use as their school learning device.

This change is being introduced primarily as a pastoral, equity and student safety initiative rather than simply a technology initiative. While technology remains an important tool for learning, the purpose of this model is to provide a more consistent, safer and more focused digital learning environment for students.

In simple terms, this change will ensure that every Year 7 student is using a reliable, carefully managed learning device that supports classroom focus, reduces unnecessary distractions, and provides equitable access to the digital tools required for learning.

Why We Are Moving to a School-Managed Device Program

A consistent, school-managed device environment will better support healthy digital habits, age-appropriate technology use and a more focused learning environment during the school day. It will also allow the School to minimise unnecessary distractions and ensure that digital tools are used purposefully to support learning.

The program will also strengthen equity by ensuring every Year 7 student has access to the same device, software and learning resources. Families will not need to navigate changing device specifications or compatibility requirements, and teachers will be able to design learning experiences knowing that all students have access to the required tools.

Pastoral care has always been at the heart of the Pittwater House experience. A managed device environment will enhance our ability to provide safer and more secure online learning experiences, support age-appropriate digital boundaries, and strengthen our approach to cyber safety, digital citizenship and responsible technology use. Importantly, this is not about increasing surveillance of students. It is about providing a safer, more consistent learning environment in which the devices used for learning remain focused on learning.

A standardised platform will also provide greater consistency in the classroom. Teachers will spend less time managing different devices, operating systems and software versions, and more time focused on teaching and learning. Technical support will also be simpler and more consistent for students and families.

Why Apple?

Pittwater House has selected the Apple MacBook as the School-supplied device for Year 7 in 2027. Apple MacBooks offer strong battery life, reliability, established education support, AppleCare options, supply arrangements, compatibility with key learning tools, and the capacity to support appropriate teacher management of devices during lessons.

We are also mindful that many students are already familiar with Apple devices and that a consistent platform can better support classroom focus, including the management of games, gambling-related content and other distractions during school hours.

Implementation for Year 7 in 2027

Students will receive a school-issued device in Year 7 for use throughout Years 7 to 9, with a replacement device provided in Year 10. Costs associated with the device program will be included in students' incidental fees and will be communicated as part of the annual fee schedule. Families will receive further information well in advance of the start of the school year, including details about device arrangements, setup, support and care expectations.

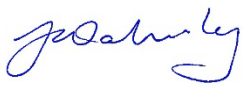
The key point for families is that Year 7 students in 2027 will use the Pittwater House-supplied Apple MacBook as their required school learning device. Students will not need to purchase or bring a separate personal device for this purpose.

Working Together

As always, our decisions are guided by what we believe is in the best interests of our students. The move to a Pittwater House-managed Apple MacBook program reflects our broader commitment to student wellbeing, equity of opportunity, digital safety and effective teaching and learning. We look forward to supporting Year 7 families through this transition and will provide further practical details in the coming months.

If you have any questions, please contact me on: james.walmsley@tphs.nsw.edu.au.

Regards,



Mr James Walmsley
Deputy Principal