

Eagle Mountain Middle - BYOD Guide



Introduction

This guide is intended for parents and students who are attending Eagle Mountain Middle. We invite families to send a device to school each day to be used in learning activities. Our **BYOD** guide refers to the practice of “Bring Your Own Device” which is technology that is parent-owned but used by students at school for learning. There are also a limited number of school-owned laptops and laptop carts that will be available in the classroom for general student use. Middle school is a very active learning space, so here are some considerations when choosing what device to bring to our school.

Safety and Responsibility

We invite families to send a device to school each day to be used in learning activities and only for that purpose. Use of any of these devices for learning will be under the direct supervision and discretion of the teacher. Further to that, students must connect to our school network via our Wi-Fi. Any use of personal data to access on-line content is strictly prohibited. Moreover, students will not be permitted to use cell phones, play video games or use social media while on school property except under specific permission by a supervising adult.

We have a device-free Nutrition Break and Lunch. All devices should be secured in lockers when not in use during class, and all cell phones need to remain in student lockers during the day. We also ask that parents **DO NOT** phone, text or e-mail your child on their personal devices during the school day. Any necessary communication during the school day is best facilitated through the main office where there are always adults available to assist.

Devices are the student's and family's responsibility. There is a possibility of damage when devices are dropped or not stored properly. The school cannot take responsibility for damaged devices.

Digital Citizenship

Any use of internet enabled devices by students at school is expected to follow our school and district code-of-conduct. There is also an [administrative procedure about digital responsibility](#). Our district has put together a website about digital responsibility here: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/Resources/DigitalCitizenship>. Any behaviour that does not meet the expectations explained in our school code-of-conduct or these procedures may lead to student discipline, limitations on their network access privileges, and potentially suspension.

We strive to develop middle school learners who are critical thinkers, problem solvers and decision makers. Our students are part of this rapidly changing world and we want them to become outstanding active participants and model digital citizens. We look forward to supporting your child in the use of BYOD at Eagle Mountain Middle.

What equipment should I consider when bringing a device to school?

Component	Reason
	See below
USB port	Allows for coding
USB Drive (8 GB)	Provides extra/backup storage option
Protective Case	Protects device from minor spills and drops
	Allows students to have room to work
Hard Drive 256 MB +	Allows for adequate storage of files
Updated Operating System	Will ensure easy access to the Wireless Network

If I am purchasing a new device, is there anything else I should consider?

We recommend that students bring a laptop. We strongly recommend purchasing a warranty that allows for repair and, if available, replacement. We work with students to help them treat devices with care, but accidents do happen and we are not able to cover the costs of repairs or replacements with school funds.

A laptop is our recommended device for a number of reasons. Consider that students will be using the device to create documents, code, access and record information, communicate, summarize, and present work. Students have found that a keyboard is very effective for when they are asked to write and produce documents. In this regard, a laptop can run multiple programs at once which helps when students have to view and organize information from multiple sources.

There is no need to purchase Microsoft Office as all students receive a free licence.

I want to support my child in developing a positive online profile and healthy choices, do you have any recommendations for further reading?

For instruction on how to install Office 365 and information on FreshGrade please visit our Eagle Mountain Middle Technology page.

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/EagleMountain/ProgramsServices/Technology/Pages/default.aspx>

SD 43 also provides parent resources at the following link:

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/Resources/DigitalCitizenship/Pages/ParentResources.aspx>

In addition, Safer Schools Together has some excellent parent resources. They regularly hold parent information nights. Stay tuned for information on their next event. Here is the link:

<https://saferschoolstogether.com/parent-resources/>

We will continue to provide resources over the course of the school year to support students and parents.