Frequently Asked Questions for Parents

1. Which device should I buy for my child?
The school does not recommend any particular device, but we suggest that minimum requirements are
- A 6 hour battery life
- At least a 10 inch screen
- Preferably a trackpad or mouse, but not essential
Please check with the manufacturers’ websites for the latest information about particular devices. This leaves families free to select devices that meet the needs of their children, without being prescriptive about which device is judged as a better performer than another.

2. How will my child be able to access the internet with his/her device?
Firstly, students and parents will need to read, sign and return their BYOD User Agreement package to the school. Secondly, your child will need to bring the device to school and take it to the ICT Office for the school technical staff to register it on the network. Then your child will be able to join the BYOD Network and access the Citrix desktop on his/her device.

3. Why does the school need to register my child’s device?
The school is required to keep a record of all devices that can access the school network. Keeping a record of all student devices will offer a better management system for the school and your child.

4. What happens if the device is accidentally damaged at school?
Each student will be provided with access to lockers either in the classroom in Middle School, or in designated areas in the Senior School. We will provide a sturdy lock for these lockers, and students will be encouraged to store their devices in their lockers when not in use. The school cannot accept any responsibility for the protection or security of any BYOD equipment. The school will provide reasonable assistance to help your child to protect and secure their devices, but it is your child’s responsibility to care for their own possessions. Most such equipment can be covered by normal household insurances, so please check with your insurance provider.

5. What if the device is stolen or wilfully damaged at school?
The school will follow through with an investigation of theft or wilful damage to any student’s BYOD, and will apply the appropriate consequences in line with the Student Behaviour Management Policy. The school will involve the police where necessary.

6. What happens if we can’t afford for my child to have his/her own device?
The school is still committed to providing reliable access to ICT for all students, but the equipment offered will need to be shared amongst a number of classes.

7. What software will my child need? Am I going to have to buy anything?
No; we have addressed this issue by investing in Citrix for the network. Citrix is the program that acts as the desktop on our BYOD Network, so all ICT users connected to the BYOD Network will have access to exactly the same programs both at school and at home. These will include the
common applications such as Word, Excel and Powerpoint, plus a range of other programs that will be updated to meet the needs of students and teachers.

8. **Will my child be able to print his/her work out to give to the teacher?**
Laptops on the BYOD Network will be able to print easily, but some devices cannot do so. Students can either send work to their teachers by email for printing, or print at home.

9. **What happens if the device isn't working at school?**
The school cannot attempt to repair or troubleshoot privately owned devices, as this will most certainly void the device's warranty conditions.

10. **What is to stop a student from going to inappropriate websites?**
That will not change from current policies. The DECD filter system is still going to block such sites, and students will simply be unable to access them.

11. **Can students create their own sub-network using their devices?**
No. Students can access the Internet, but cannot see or connect to anyone else who may be on the system.

**Summary**
The school appreciates that this policy is a result of a fundamental change in the way in which we acquire and use ICT in the classroom. All times of such change are challenging, and we believe this is the most positive solution that we can provide for all our current and future students.

The BYOD strategy has been tried and tested in many nations around the world for several years in education, government and business environments. We believe this policy will provide greater opportunities for your child to maintain and build upon the already high standards of ICT skills and innovation evident at Seaford 6-12 School.