



21 October 2025

Dear parents/caregivers

Y9-13 Devices for students information

At Elim Christian College we believe that devices are an essential part of learning, when used in a careful, considered and planned manner. We ask students from years 9-13 to have their own device for use in class at the direction of the teacher. We work hard to ensure that we get the right balance between online and offline learning that will best prepare our students for their futures

NZQA is steadily increasing the number of NCEA external exams offered exclusively online. To prepare for these exams and for everyday learning, students must ensure they have a suitable Chromebook or laptop. As a student at Elim Christian College, your son or daughter will receive a Google email address that is part of our school domain and will have access to the Google suite of learning tools. Some subjects may also use other software such as Windows Office Suite or Adobe products.

Our general advice is that a Chromebook will be sufficient for years 9 and 10 and that parents should consider a laptop with more functionality once their son or daughter reaches year 11. The device that your child brings to school needs to have the following features to be suitable for the rigors of senior academic learning:

Please note: a tablet or other similar device, such as an ipad is NOT suitable

- Battery life of 8-10 hours from one charge
- An operating system that has the appropriate wireless connectivity e.g. Chrome O.S, Mac OS v.10.10 or newer, Windows 11
- A reasonable screen size
- Wireless Connectivity using 802.11n (or higher)
- i5+ processor, SSD (Solid State Drive) and 8GB+ of RAM ensure smooth operation for laptops
- A protective casing and firewall/antivirus software is highly recommended for all devices

Please note that while each family will own the device, the school will manage its use during school hours on our secure internet connection.

Students who have another device from previous years may find it still works for their particular programme of study. Please note that some subjects in the NCEA curriculum, e.g. music, photography and design, may have specialised tasks and a higher level of computing power from a

device that will not be available in lower priced models. *Students and parents are encouraged to contact specialist subject teachers if they need more clarification about these specialised tasks.*

Some important notes

- As per legislation, we do not support or allow the use of mobile phones anywhere on school grounds during the school day. PHONES AWAY FOR THE SCHOOL DAY.
- Students using mobile phones during school hours without express permission of a teacher will have them confiscated. They will ONLY be returned to a caregiver or parent on site. No exceptions.
- Student devices must not have mobile data access or VPN software installed.
- N4L provides free internet filtering for home use. See switchonsafety.co.nz for more information.

Management and maintenance

While staff can assist students with the management and troubleshooting of devices during the school day, the maintenance of devices is the sole responsibility of the student and their parents or caregivers. Students are required to have a protective case, and their device must be clearly labeled. A key homework responsibility is for students to develop the habit of bringing a fully charged device to school each day.

More questions?

Parents are encouraged to contact their child's Deputy Principal if they have any queries about the BYOD programme:

Golflands Campus Middle Years (Y9): Mr Michael McKenzie - michael.mckenzie@elim.school.nz

Botany Campus Senior Years (Y10-13): Mr Tody Granat - tody.granat@elim.school.nz

Thank you for your support as we continue to enhance your child's learning experience.

Yours sincerely

Julian Adamson
PRINCIPAL