



Gaston Day School Bring Your Own Chromebook (BYOC) Policy Grades 5-8

The Gaston Day School Bring Your Own Device Policy requires all students in 5th through 8th grades to provide their own device to use at school daily. We believe this policy allows access to technology that meets the needs of a Middle School student in order to provide the best possible learning experience.

Responsible Use

Gaston Day School holds high expectations for student behavior, academic integrity, and the responsible use of existing and emerging technologies. Students who use personal devices while on the Gaston Day School campus or at school-sponsored events shall demonstrate respect for the educational environment and the rights and privacy of all individuals within the school community. All students and parents are expected to sign a responsible use form at the beginning of each school year. In no way will Gaston Day School assume responsibility for damaged, lost or stolen devices. Parents and students assume all responsibility for any/all charges incurred to the device. The student will only access the internet using the GDS student wireless connection. The student realizes that printing from personal technology devices will not be possible at school. The student accesses only files on the device or Internet sites which are relevant to the classroom curriculum. Parents and students recognize the student has sole responsibility for the device and GDS staff are not to work on or troubleshoot the personal computer.

Device Requirements

Students in grades 3 through 8 are expected to have a Chromebook and students in Middle School should bring this device to school fully charged every day. Student cell phones are not considered an approved device and should not be used during classes. Given that there are certain technical requirements needed to be successful in the Middle School, students are required to have a Chromebook with the following features:

- Wireless internet access
- Keyboard
- Minimum 11" screen
- Headphone jack- headphones with a mic may be needed also
- Chrome Operating System (OS) (iPads, tablets, or other laptops are not permitted) Gaston Day is not responsible for incompatible devices that do not meet these specifications unless approved by the technology department.
- Must be regularly updated to ensure performance quality
- Must **not** have a parental lock enabled
- Special Note: 8th graders who had a laptop that was not a chromebook last year must seek device approval from the IT Office if they plan to use it again this year

Device Registration

Students must register their device with the technology department at the beginning of the school year in order to obtain wifi access and the appropriate school filters. Students will be required to submit the brand, model, serial number, and wifi/mac address through OnCampus forms to complete the registration process.

Wifi Requirement at home:

All students should also have access to a reliable wifi connection at home with a minimum of 1.5 Mbps for 1:1 HD streaming. If required to move to virtual learning, students will be expected to access lessons online, attend synchronous classes, and submit digital assignments. **ZOOM:** if needed

Minimum bandwidth is 600kbps (up/down) and recommended is 1.5 Mbps (up/down). Check your Internet bandwidth using Speedtest. <https://www.speedtest.net/>