

POLICY	Owner	Principal
	ID (Version)	002
	Published	Sep 1 st 2026
	Valid Until	Aug 31 st 2027

4.4 DBSEH BYOD Policy



Dubai British School – Emirates Hills

DBSEH BYOD Policy 2026 – 2027

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1. POLICY STATEMENT

Dubai British School Emirates Hills (DBSEH) recognises the role of digital technologies in enhancing learning, engagement, independence, and preparation for future pathways. This policy outlines a whole-school approach to Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), ensuring that personal digital devices are used safely, purposefully, and equitably to support high-quality teaching and learning.

The policy applies across all phases of the school and is underpinned by safeguarding, inclusion, digital wellbeing, and academic integrity. It complements existing DBSEH policies and ensures that the use of personal devices enhances learning without compromising student welfare or access for all learners.

2. BELIEFS

We believe that:

- Digital technology, when used purposefully, enhances learning, creativity, and collaboration.
- Students should develop digital responsibility, self-regulation, and ethical online behaviour from an early age.
- Technology must support pedagogy, not replace high-quality teaching.
- Safeguarding and digital wellbeing are non-negotiable in all uses of technology.
- Equity of access is essential; no student should be disadvantaged due to device availability.
- Clear expectations shared between school, students, and parents promote safe and effective BYOD use.
- Age-appropriate use of technology supports independence while respecting developmental needs.
- Home and school partnerships are critical in reinforcing responsible device use.

3. STANDARDS

- BYOD use will be explicitly teacher-directed and aligned to learning objectives.
- Personal devices must only be used for educational purposes during the school day.
- All device use must comply with safeguarding, acceptable use, and behaviour expectations.

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- The school will not require a personal device as the sole means of accessing learning.
- Misuse of devices will result in proportionate consequences in line with the Behaviour Policy.
- Students must not access, create, or share inappropriate content at any time.
- Devices must not be used to record, photograph, or share images or audio without permission.
- Online communication must be respectful, lawful, and school-appropriate at all times.
- Alternative school-provided devices will be available where required to ensure inclusion.
- Adjustments will be made for students with SEND or additional needs, in line with the Inclusion Policy
- Devices must not compromise assessment integrity.
- Use of technology during assessments will only occur when explicitly permitted and aligned with the Assessment Policy.

4. GUIDELINES

The following guidance supports implementation across phases:

4.1. Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

- BYOD is not expected.
- Any use of personal devices is staff-controlled and highly structured.

4.2. Primary School

- Limited, purposeful use of personal devices may occur **under direct supervision**.
- Devices are typically used for:
 - Research
 - Reading platforms
 - Teacher-directed applications
- Devices remain **switched off and stored** unless required for learning.

4.3. Secondary School

- BYOD use is more frequent and supports:
 - Independent research
 - Collaborative learning

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- Digital organisation of learning
- Teachers **explicitly set expectations** for when and how devices are used.

4.4. Home Learning

- BYOD use at home should support the principles outlined in the Home Learning Policy, promoting balance, wellbeing, and independence

5. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Document Title
Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
Acceptable Use Policy
Behaviour Policy
Inclusion Policy
Assessment Policy
Home Learning Policy
Digital Wellbeing / E-Safety Policy

6. ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

Abbreviation / Term	Description / Definition
BYOD	Bring Your Own Device; a model where students use personally owned digital devices for learning when permitted by the school.
EYFS	Early Years Foundation Stage; the early education phase referenced in the guidance section of this policy.
DBSEH	Dubai British School Emirates Hills, the school to which this policy applies.
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities; a term used when considering reasonable adjustments and inclusive access.
Digital wellbeing	The safe, balanced, and healthy use of technology in ways that support learning, wellbeing, and self-regulation.
Academic integrity	The expectation that students complete work honestly and that device use does not compromise the fairness or validity of assessment.
Acceptable use	The expected safe, responsible, lawful, and school-appropriate use of devices, platforms, networks, and online communication.

7. AUTHORISATION HISTORY

Authority	Signature	Date
Owner	B Girven	Sept 2026

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