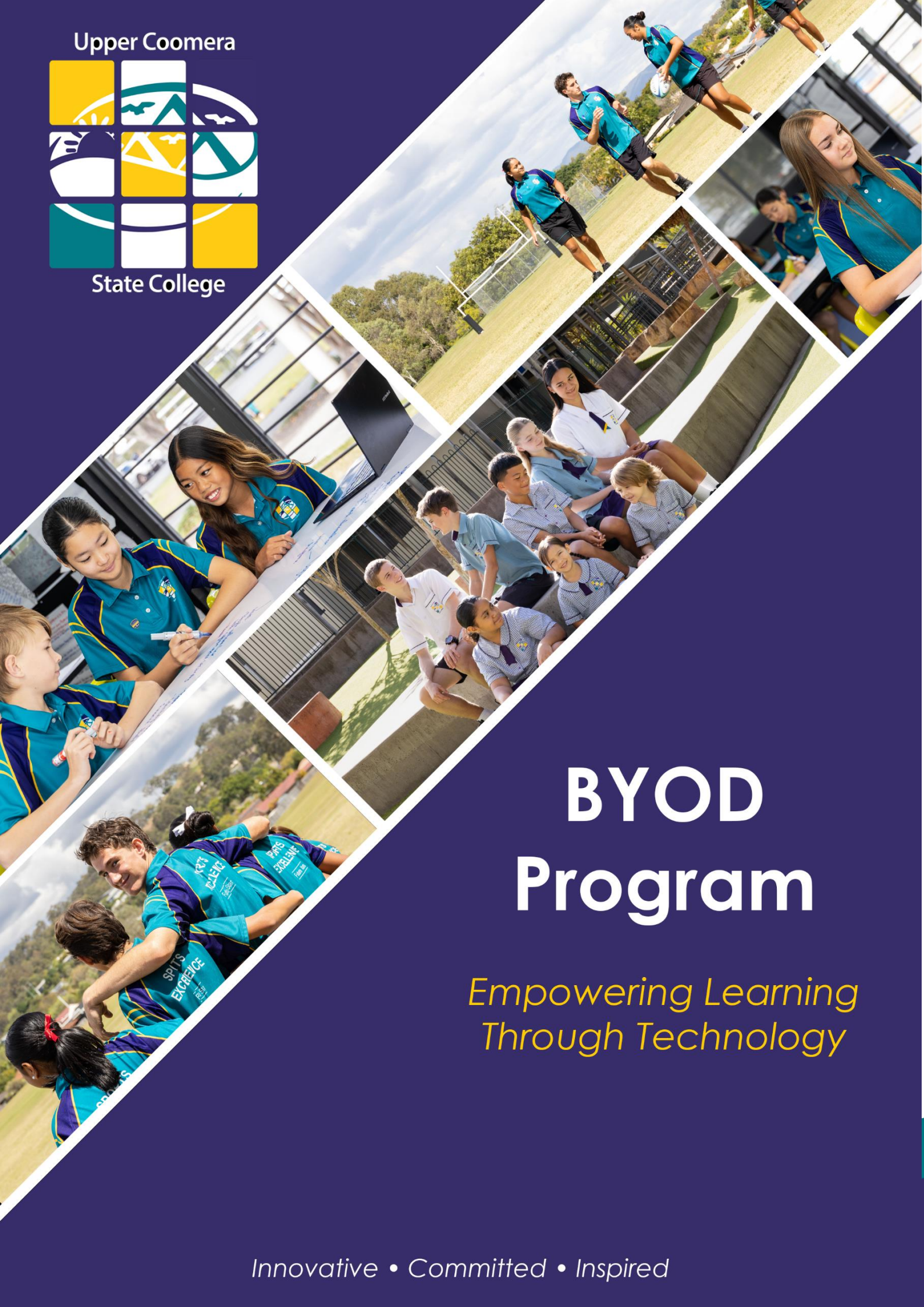Upper Coomera
State College

BYOD Program

Empowering Learning Through Technology

Innovative • Committed • Inspired

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1. Target Audience

All students in Years 3 to 12 are expected to bring a personal digital device to school in 2026. Students in **Years 3-6** are required to use iPads, while students in **Years 7–12** should bring a laptop that meets the specifications. This approach recognises that learners have individual needs and preferred styles.

2. What is BYOD?

"Bring Your Own Device" (BYOD) allows students to bring personally owned devices to access school learning resources and networks, supporting a flexible and digitally enriched learning environment. BYOD enhances learning outcomes by enabling seamless transition between home and school learning.

3. BYOD Program at UCSC

The BYOD program at UCSC:

- Promotes personalised and flexible learning
- Enhances 21st-century digital skills
- Enables anytime-anywhere access to educational materials
- Prepares students for future academic and professional environments

We expect every student to engage in the BYOD program unless a device has been borrowed through special arrangement.

4. BYOD Device Specifications

iPads (Years 3–6)

- iPad (9th Gen) or newer

- iPadOS 17 or later

- Minimum 32GB (64GB+ recommended)

- Protective case required

- **iPad Minis and iPads below 9th generation are not supported**

Laptops (Years 7–12)

- Windows 11 or macOS 13 or newer

- Intel i5 / AMD Ryzen 5 or better

- 8GB RAM, 128GB SSD minimum

- 11"+ screen, physical keyboard

- Wi-Fi 5GHz capable

Unsupported OS: Android, ChromeOS, Linux

5. Device Recommendations and When to Purchase

It is advised that families purchase and setup the device before bringing them to school. This gives students time to become familiar with the device before school starts, ensuring a smooth transition and readiness on day one. Consider size, weight, and durability for daily transport.

6. Choosing Your Device

Families are encouraged to consider budget, performance, and longevity. Devices should support the full range of learning applications. The **HP Direct Portal** offers a curated list of compatible models with warranty and insurance options. Purchases can be made elsewhere provided the device meets minimum requirements.

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7. Software and Required Applications

All students:

- Receive **free access to Microsoft Office 365** suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, Outlook)

- Have access to Adobe Creative Cloud (for applicable subjects)

- Must install Company Portal (IOS devices)

Subject-specific software (e.g., Adobe Photoshop, Autodesk, VLC Media Player) will be provided where necessary. Teachers will assist with software installation and access issues.

8. Data Backup and Security

Device failure, loss or theft can lead to data loss. Students should:

- Use their Education Queensland OneDrive for automatic cloud backup

- Avoid storing critical work only on local devices

9. Care, Insurance, and Warranty

Devices must be treated with care:

- Store in a padded carry case or backpack compartment

- Keep food and drink away from devices

- Use only with clean, dry hands

We strongly recommend:

- Purchasing insurance to cover accidental damage, theft or loss

- Purchasing a 3-year extended warranty (ADP – From HP Direct)

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10. Repairs, Maintenance & School Support

Students are responsible for their own devices. The school provides:

- Diagnostic support for connectivity and login issues

Devices should be taken to the vendor for hardware issues unless purchased through the JB online portal or HP Direct. School technicians can provide advice.

11. Health, Safety and Security

- Use devices on desks or surfaces that support good posture
- Avoid extended use without breaks
- Disable mobile data connections while on campus
- Do not leave devices unattended

12. Acceptable Use

Students must adhere to the College's ICT Acceptable Use Policy:

- Use devices only for educational purposes
- No sharing of passwords or accounts
- Do not use messaging or video chat apps (e.g. iMessage, FaceTime) during school
- No inappropriate content or online behaviour

Students are expected to be respectful digital citizens, considering their digital footprint and the impact of their actions.

13. FAQs

Q: Can I use a device I already own?
Yes, if it meets the college's specifications.

Q: Do students still use pen and paper?
Yes, devices supplement traditional learning tools.

Q: Do I need to buy apps or software?
All required software is free via the school.

Q: Can I bring a 3G/4G-enabled iPad?
Yes, but mobile data must be disabled on school grounds.

Q: What if my device is damaged or lost?
Parents are responsible for repair or replacement. Consider insurance and a durable case. If the device is purchased through the HP or JB Hi-Fi BYOD portal and has Accidental Damage Protection (ADP), our IT staff can log the device and manage repairs directly at the school. For devices bought elsewhere, the IT department can provide advice on next steps including warranty or external repair options.

14. BYOD Rules for Students

- Devices are for learning only, not gaming or entertainment

- Bring devices fully charged daily

- Follow teacher directions regarding use

- Devices must remain in protective cases

- Students must not attempt to **bypass network filtering** or use **VPNs**

- Misuse of devices may result in disciplinary action

For questions or support, contact:
IT Support Services
Email: it@uppercoomerasc.eq.edu.au

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