



# BRYNEVEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cnr. Ballyclare Drive  
& Ballina Road  
Bryanston Ext 7  
2021

Tel: (011) 463-1453  
Tel: (011) 463-1429  
Fax: (011) 706-1884  
www.bryneven.co.za

P O Box 67095  
Bryanston  
2021



09 November 2016

## **Forget the backpack stuffed with books! It's the era of the tablet and digital learning.**

**Dear Learners (grades 5, 6 and 7), Parents and Educators,**

In terms of education, the tablet is a powerful computing device that will significantly enable and enrich both the learning and teaching process. The advantages of using electronic devices in learning are common knowledge and well documented.

Schools see genuine excitement over the introduction of mobile devices. This leads to an increased motivation to learn. Pupils are reported to be more creative, independent and engaged with their schoolwork. Research showed motivation was due to three things:

- 1) interactivity,
- 2) speed,
- 3) and range of access to information.

After careful research and the rollout of Bryneven Technology strategy since 2013, we now have the right tools, skills and business partners to introduce Tablets and e-books (electronic text books) into the classroom.

The ITSI platform chosen (<https://www.it.si>) provides Educators and Learners with a digital solution that enhances and simplifies the teaching experience at every touch-point. Having these devices will literally put the world at our children's fingertips. This will enable a more structured, meaningful collaborative learning approach. Tablets will enable students to take greater control of their own education and vastly improve their engagement in the classroom.

So as from January term one 2017, all Grade 5, 6 and 7 learners will need to bring their own tablets, fully charged to school daily. Lessons will use the electronic textbooks (e-books) loaded on the tablets. These e-books will be available offline for study when at home. No Wi-Fi or data / 3G contract needed. Extra notes, worksheets and resources will be made available electronically - directly into the e-text books.

Bryneven will be adopting a 'BLENDED' approach, using both physical workbooks (as ordered per Stationary list) to write in AND e-textbooks on the tablets. As an added bonus, all e-textbooks will be provided by the school. These will be automatically downloaded at the start of the year onto each learner's tablet using the school's Wi-Fi.

There are many tablet purchase options available. The school will provide links to our Partners to get you the best deal possible. There are however many contract upgrade and other purchase options. You can leverage these directly with your service provider. The only requirement is that the Tablets meet the minimum specifications below:

# Minimum Tablet Specs

ANDROID



Tier one devices only  
(eg. Samsung, Acer, Asus, Sony, LG)

Quad Core CPU at 1.2 GHz processing speed  
16GB internal Storage space  
2GB RAM

Android Version 5 or higher (Lollipop or later)

*We highly recommend devices running Android 5+ (Lollipop or later).*

Apple



iOS 8, iOS 9 or higher

iPad 4 and up, iPad Mini, iPad Air or iPad Pro

*We highly recommend iPad Mini or iPad Air for their performance and Airdrop support.*

Windows



Tablet or laptop with Windows 10 or higher.

16GB Internal Storage

The School will provide secure Wi-Fi access to all learners at school. All tablets and all books will automatically update while at school. All content will be available offline when they are at home to access e-textbooks and all other resources.

It will be the learner's responsibility to ensure that the tablet is fully charged for each school day. We understand that security is a major concern. While each child and parent will ultimately be responsible for the care of their devices, we are putting in security cameras at school. This will help alleviate the pressures of theft and breakage. We do however strongly suggest each parent include the tablet in their household or cell phone insurance contract. We further ask that all tablets be fitted with all the necessary protective coverings such as an outer cover, screen protector and Find Me type App. Details of this and other Internet Security Apps will be sent out on D6 Communicator.

The learners will receive training at the start of the school year. They will be shown how to open and use e-books and basic tablet and internet safety. The tablets can ONLY be taken out of the backpacks when in the classroom. Strict rules have to be applied.

Between lessons, in the corridors, breaks and after school waiting areas - the tablet will ALWAYS remain in the learners backpack or bag.

We are very excited about this programme. We know it will benefit our learners both in the short term in the classroom and in the long term! Providing our children with a range of relevant, real-world twenty-first century skills and engaged learning, is our primary goal!

Tablets will help prepare our learners for the future. They give confidence and provide the creative tools unrivalled by traditional classroom infrastructure. They will engage those kids who are hard to reach and motivate. Last but not least, this just helps our kids and us to speak the same language – that's an opportunity you really don't want to squander. For any queries please contact [technology@bryneven.co.za](mailto:technology@bryneven.co.za)

Kind Regards,

Miss Shamin Garib (Principal)

Mrs Videsh Singh (SGB Chairperson)