



BLUE MOUNTAINS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Bring Your Own Technology

Technology Information Sheet

The purpose of this document is to provide advice as to the types of devices that will best suit the learning needs of students.

Although smartphones and tablets do allow users to access web content they are not the best devices to use for many of the activities that will occur in class. In general, we recommend laptops over tablets.

Tablets are viewed as content consumption devices and would be suitable for e-textbooks and simple note-taking but would not be recommended for creating work in class. This being said there are also limitations with tablets (of all brands) that cannot be overcome so not all network access can be guaranteed.

Laptops are viewed as content creation devices and in general, all round devices. Most services can be guaranteed on a laptop. We recommend laptops as the best choice for student devices.

In choosing a device for school we make the following recommendation:

Hardware

Recommended Requirements

If purchasing a new computer, a device with the following characteristics will be suitable for three to four years and support software used in the School:

Recommended hardware:

CPU:

Intel Core i7

Memory:

8GB RAM minimum

Hard Drive:

Traditional Hard Drive: 500GB-1TB

Suggested computers that meet these requirements are Apple MacBook Pro and the Microsoft Surface Book.

A 14" or larger screen is recommended for some of the ADOBE software.

Minimum Requirements

An older device with the following characteristics will generally provide a trouble-free experience for the user with Internet and most software:

Hardware:

8GB RAM

i-5 processor, 1.8Ghz or faster

250GB-500GB hard drive



Software provided by the School

All software provided by the School can be obtained by visiting the ICT Office in the Library Resource Centre.

Sophos Anti-Virus

- All laptops (Macs and PCs) should have Anti-Virus software. The School uses Sophos Anti-Virus and this can be provided to students and parents free of charge upon request. (It is in the S:Drive however please discuss this with the ICT staff prior to downloading from the S:Drive).

Microsoft Office

- All laptops should have a copy of an Office program, preferably Microsoft Office, as many teachers are using Microsoft specific programs, such as Publisher and OneNote. Microsoft Office can be installed by the ICT Department.

ADOBE Software

- The ADOBE Masters Collection is installed for use in specialised computer labs. Currently, the ADOBE licensing allows all programs to be installed, except for Video Editing programs (Premiere and After Effects) onto BYOT computers.

As of 2016, ADOBE intend to allow all software to be installed onto BYOT computers using the School's licence. The current ADOBE package is available from the ICT Department.

Other Subject Specific Software

- All other software used in specific subjects are free and can be downloaded via instructions from the teacher in class.

If you have any questions or you would like to request further information regarding the student BYOT program at BMGS, please email byot@bmgs.nsw.edu.au