

Bring Your Own Technology

About Technology Requirements

A central aspect for learning is a students' ability to access, analyse and create digital material throughout their senior years. It is compulsory for all students to bring their own technology. However, parents need to be aware that there are certain specifications required to ensure their child has a device that will best suit their learning needs.

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 completing learning tasks 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 laptop for school, we make the following suggestions.

Hardware Requirements

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.

Specification	Recommended Requirements	Minimum Requirements
Device	Apple MacBook Pro Microsoft Surface Book	If using an existing device, one with the following specification will generally provide a trouble-free experience for the user with Internet and most software.
Screen	A 14" or larger recommended when using some Adobe software apps	
CPU	Intel Core i7 Minimum: i-5 of 2.7Ghz	i-5 processor 1.8Ghz or faster
Memory	8GB RAM minimum More is recommended if possible	8GB RAM
Hard Drive	Traditional Hard Drive: 500GB - 1TB SSD: 256GB or larger	250GB - 500GB Hard Drive

Software

Item	Specification
Device Operating System	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Windows laptops will need to be running Windows 7 with SP1, Windows 8.1 or Windows 10 (Windows XP with SP3 will be supported but Windows Vista will not be supported).Mac Laptops will need to have Mac OS 10.11 or above.
Software provided by the school	All software provided by the School can be obtained by visiting the ICT Office in the LRC.
Sophos Anti-Virus	All laptops (Macs and PC's) should have Anti-Virus software. The School uses Sophos Anti-Virus and this can be provided to students and parents for free upon request. This version is managed by the school so some functionality is restricted for student users.
Microsoft Office	All Laptops should have a copy of an Office program, preferably Microsoft Office as many teachers are using Microsoft specific programs. Microsoft Office can be installed from office.com with the students' school login.
Adobe Software	The Adobe Creative Cloud Suite is provided by the school and will be set up on BYOT computers during class as required.
Other Subject Specific Software	All other software used in specific subjects as free and can be downloaded via instructions from the teacher in class.

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