ALEXANDRA HILLS
STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Creating Pathways, Inspiring Success

ALEXANDRA HILLS SHS
Automation & Robotics
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

BYOD requirements – Years 7-9   v300925

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) personal computers are used every day by students to support and enhance their learning in all subjects. The amount of time that the laptops are used will vary from day to day, based on how well they complement the classroom topic or learning activity.

For Years 7 – 9, students must have a school-connected Laptop or iPad as their learning device. Laptops are preferred for all year levels, but iPads are accepted in Years 7 – 9 to reduce expense. If using an iPad, an external keyboard is expected. Please note that iPads are not adequate for Years 10 – 12.

Years 7 – 9	Years 10 – 12
Laptop **or** iPad (laptops are preferred)	Laptop **only**

Laptops usually have an expected lifespan of 3 - 4 years, depending on the laptop build quality and individual usage and care. In years 10 - 12, some subjects require a "premium level" laptop. Please refer to the "BYOD requirements 10-12" guide on the school website.

Families that have a device which is less than 4 years old are encouraged to bring it to school to see if network connection can occur, before having to purchase another device. Older devices may have issues with battery life.

Minimum Device Specifications

⚠️ **CAUTION** – These devices will not connect to the Department of Education's wireless network: Chromebook laptops; Android tablets; laptops equipped with Qualcomm "Snapdragon" CPUs; devices using Windows 10S, Windows RT or Linux operating systems.

Laptop – minimum specifications (Years 7-9)	iPad – minimum specifications (Years 7-9)
- Windows 11 / MacOS 13 'Ventura' or above 4 GB RAM - Minimum 11" - Maximum 14" screen size (recommended to minimise weight, reduce risk of breakage and extend battery hours) 128 GB storage - WiFi 5 (802.11ac) or higher - Laptop shell / case / sleeve (foam sleeves are less protective)	- iPadOS 18 or above - Standard size (not iPad Mini) 32 GB storage recommended - WiFi models only (Cellular internet connections must not be used at school) - External keyboard – required - iPad Case / Cover – recommended - Stylus / pen – not required

Software

We recommended that students install Microsoft 365. This is available as a **free download** on student laptops and their home devices (see school website for details). It can only be downloaded and installed at home, using the student's school log-in.

Microsoft productivity programs (eg Word) should be used instead of Apple alternatives (eg Pages), so lesson and assessment files can be opened by both teachers and students. Students can also save these files directly to their Microsoft OneDrive school accounts once they are logged into Office 365. Using the SharePoint app, students can access a range of software products and subscriptions used by the school.

	Share-Point		Word		Excel		Power-point		OneDrive

Internet Browser

Microsoft Edge is the default Windows 11 browser and Safari is the default MacOS / iPadOS browser. Students should also install Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox as alternative browsers as different sites work better with different browsers.

Frequently Asked Questions – iPads

Q: What type of iPad is required?

A: iPad Mini's are considered too small for viewing and typing. iPad Pros are permitted but are more than is necessary. High storage options (128 or 256 GB) and Cellular capability are not required.

Q: Where do I download apps or update the device?

A: Downloading of apps and device updates must be conducted at home. The iPad can have apps that are not necessarily required by the school, however school apps must have priority of the iPad's storage.

Q: What should I do before bringing an iPad to school?

1. Setup an Apple ID and possibly Family Sharing
2. Set a Passcode (store this securely) and any desired restrictions (eg. *Screen Time* restrictions for home)
3. Enable *Find My iPhone/iPad App* BEFORE coming to school (in Settings via the Apple ID)
4. Put any personal apps in a designated folder

If you have any questions, please email: ict@alexandrahillsshs.eq.edu.au