



# BYOD requirements – Years 7-8

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) supports the delivery of 21st Century Learning and recognises the demand for seamless movement between school and home. The amount of time that the devices are used will vary from day to day, based on how well they complement the classroom topic.

For Years 7 – 8, students can bring either Laptops or iPads as their learning device:

Years 7 – 8	Years 9 – 12
Laptop or iPad – <b>Required</b> (laptops are preferred)	Laptops only – <b>Required</b>

Laptops are preferred for all year levels, but iPads are accepted in Years 7 – 8 to reduce expense. If using an iPad, an external keyboard is expected. Please note that iPads are not adequate for Years 9 – 12.

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 9-12” 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 school network:  
Chromebook laptops, Android tablets or devices using Windows 10S, Windows RT or Linux.

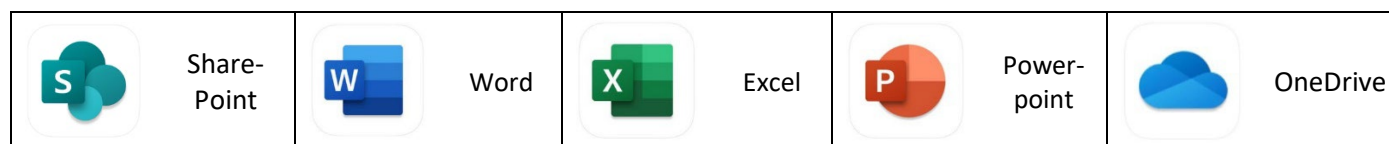
Years 7-8 Laptops – minimum specifications	Years 7-8 iPads – minimum specifications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Windows 10: 64 bit (most new Windows laptops are now Windows 11) <b>OR</b> Mac OS 11 (Big Sur) - or above</li> <li>▪ 4 GB RAM</li> <li>▪ Screen size of 11” – 13”</li> <li>▪ 128 GB Hard Drive (SSD recommended)</li> <li>▪ Laptop shell / case / sleeve (foam sleeves are less protective)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ iPadOS 16 or above</li> <li>▪ Screen size of 9.7” or larger</li> <li>▪ 32 GB storage recommended</li> <li>▪ WiFi models only (Cellular internet connections must not be used at school)</li> <li>▪ External keyboard – required</li> <li>▪ iPad Case / Cover – recommended</li> <li>▪ Stylus / pen – not required</li> </ul>



## 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.



## Internet Browser

Microsoft Edge is the default Windows 10/11 browser and Safari is the default Apple MacOS 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](mailto:ict@alexandrahillsshs.eq.edu.au)