Pennant Hills Public School

Bring Your Own Device

Minimum Specifications

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BYOD Minimum Specifications




Device Type	Windows Laptop	Mac Laptop	Windows Tablet	Apple (iOS) Tablet
Operating System	Windows 10, Windows 11	MacOS 13/14+ (Ventura/Sonoma)	Windows 10, Windows 11	iOS 16+
Wireless	**5GHz 802.11n/ac/ax**	**5GHz 802.11n/ac/ax**	**5GHz 802.11n/ac/ax**	**5GHz 802.11n/ac/ax**
Screen Size	10 - 14”	10 - 14”	13”	10.2" - 10.9”
Storage Capacity	Minimum 256GB SSD	Minimum 256GB SSD	Minimum 256GB SSD	Minimum 64GB
RAM	Minimum 8GB	Minimum 8GB	Minimum 8GB	4GB
Battery Life	12 hours	18 hours	16 hours	10 hours
Software	Devices must have software or apps that allow for: □ Internet browsing □ note taking □ word processing □ creating spreadsheets □ creating presentations Students can use Adobe and Microsoft 365 for free with their student accounts.			
Device Example	Any well-known brand laptop E.g.,HP, ACER, DELL	13-inch MacBook Air https://www.apple.com/au/macbook-air/	Microsoft Surface Pro 8 https://www.microsoft.com/en-au/surface	Apple iPad 10th Gen https://www.apple.com/au/ipad-10.9/
Protective Cover / Case	Students must carry the device in their school bag. If the bag is dropped or handled harshly it is important that the device is buffered from damage. A hard cover or a case containing memory foam for added protection is mandatory.			
Maximum weight	2kg. Students will be carrying the device to and from school.			

Please Note:

1. The DoE wireless network installed in high schools only operates on the 802.11n **5GHz** standard. Devices with 802.11a/b/g or 802.11n 2.4GHz only will **not** be able to connect.
   Ask this question before you buy a device for BYOD -
   “The NSW Department of Education has a 5GHz (n) wireless network. Does this device support 5GHz Wireless N?”
   Do not purchase a device for BYOD unless the answer is “Yes”.
2. **Android-based devices are intentionally omitted** from the Hardware Specification because applications do not work properly and consistently on the DoE’s wireless network.

Software Specification
Before purchasing expensive software, please read the following two points. Historically application software is downloaded and installed on the local machine. While we will most likely continue to download and install software on computers there is a growing move towards applications being delivered through the Internet in what has been termed *the Cloud*.

Point 1- Free Software available: *Google Apps* have been available for a while and allow the user to log into Google and create documents, presentations, spreadsheets, drawings and forms or simple databases. It also allows users' access to 30Gb of storage space and the ability to share documents that can be worked on collaboratively. Microsoft has also developed a similar solution called *Microsoft 365* which offers similar options. Both *Microsoft 365* and *Google Apps* are linked to students DoE portal so that when they log into the Internet through the DoE student portal, they will automatically have access to both *Google Apps* and *Windows 365*. *Microsoft 365* also offers the option of downloading a student version of office to for free. *Google Apps* provides the ability to create, store share and work collaboratively on documents, presentations, spreadsheets, drawings and simple databases (forms) for free. This works 'in the Cloud' and work can be shared across a variety of devices and operating systems.

Point 2 - Adobe Enterprise Agreement: Adobe software includes software for developing online application, graphics, music, web design etc. Adobe has offered a free student version of their software that can be downloaded onto a BYO device. Adobe software is currently too processor and memory hungry to run in the cloud however, Adobe is working on a solution. Due to the size of the adobe products and the processing power they need to run Adobe software may not function effectively on a low-end BYO device. If students need access to this level of software, they will utilise the specialist technology spaces within the school. Rather than look at software in terms of brands, the BYOD approach we are taking means that students will utilise a number of different devices within the classroom with different brands of software. For example, a student may use *Google Apps*, *Microsoft Office, Apple Pages or Open Office Text Document* to create a word-processed document. The software is merely a tool to allow the student to create and communicate. The software selection is related to what the students will need to do.