

Ashburton College – BYOD Information

Why BYOD – Bring Your Own Device?

To provide more access to digital technologies that contribute to raising student achievement by enabling students to be:

- effective users of communication tools
- active seekers, users and creators of knowledge
- independent, resourceful and enterprising
- future focused
- critical thinkers
- able to work collaboratively
- able to share work from home to school and with their teachers

We encourage all students to bring their own device to support their learning. Our focus will be on supporting all Year 9–13 to make extensive uses of these digital devices and technologies in their courses. We understand that some students will not have a device which is why we have already purchased some sets of laptops so that no student misses out.

What is a digital device?

It is a personal laptop, Netbook, Chromebook, Android Tablet, or an iPad. As a school we don't believe that mandating a particular device is necessary, and because individual student needs differ, this can be a complex question to answer. We have however, put together some suggested minimum specifications.

The Device

A digital device is one that allows students to browse, create and edit documents efficiently. Students do not require a powerful (expensive) machine, nor do they need a large hard drive as they can easily save and share their work in the cloud.

Suggested Minimum Specifications

Laptops

- Minimum 6 hour battery life
- AC Power adapter/charger
- 10" screen
- CPU i5 Intel or higher

- 4–8 GB memory
- WiFi: 802.11g or 802.11n
- 2 USB ports
- Audio out (for headphones)
- Weight (low as possible)

Suggested Extras:

- Upgrade to 3-year warranty
- Carry bag/protective case
- Personal insurance

Tablets

- Minimum 6 hour battery life
- AC Power adapter/charger
- 9" screen
- 1 GB minimum memory
- WiFi: 802.11g or 802.11n
- Audio out (for headphones)

Suggested Extras:

- Upgrade to 2–3 year warranty
- Carry bag/protective case
- Personal insurance

Software

Laptops

- Operating System: Windows 10 or higher (disable S-mode), or macOS 12 (Monterey) or higher
- Web browser (Google Chrome capable)
- Software that enables word processing, presentations, spreadsheets, image manipulation, video and audio editing. Can be cloud based (Google Docs). The Ministry of Education provides Office 365 free to students.

- Antivirus software

Tablets

- Operating System: Android 11 or higher, iOS 15/16 or higher, or Windows 10 or higher
- Web browser (Google Chrome capable)
- Software for word processing, presentations, spreadsheets, image manipulation, video and audio editing (can be cloud based).

Additional equipment:

- USB pen drive
- Headphones

Things to consider if purchasing a device

- iPad tablets do not connect to external devices such as a mouse, USB or hard disk.
- Increased memory = smoother running devices.
- 2 or 3 year warranties recommended, especially with replacement batteries.

Also important:

Ensure insurance covers the device. A protective case will help with daily use.