Recommendations for students at St Matthew's Collegiate

Technical specifications change fast. This Trinity Schools technical specification list is provided in good faith, but naturally is subject to some activity beyond our control. Students will have choice in terms of their devices, however, there are some minimum requirements that have to be met, and that is for a "full" operating system. This means:

Windows 8.1 / Windows 10

Apple's OS X ** (10.10 - Yosemite to ensure compatibility)

**Apple devices are not touch or stylus capable. It is highly recommended that all students consider a touch and stylus capable device as a BYOD option.

Please note The requirement for a full operating system will exclude Operating Systems such as Apples' iOS (commonly found on iPads, iPhones and iPod Touches) and Google's Android or Chrome OS (commonly found on various tablets and smart phones).

Having a full operating system means that students can generally overcome most compatibility issues (if any occur). It also enables teachers to be able to plan with confidence knowing that student devices will be able to support the applications and file formats they are using.

A touch screen device with an 'active' stylus pen is also highly recommended. A stylus pen is extremely useful in subjects such as Science and Mathematics where students are dealing with symbols and diagrams on a regular basis. An 'active' stylus will detect the pen when writing and will prevent your palm from activating the touch screen. This allows for natural handwriting.

If you have an existing device, or intend on purchasing a device, that is not touch capable then we recommend that you purchase a USB digital drawing tablet that can be attached to the device so that it can accept a stylus pen input.

- ## What about Apple?

Apple MacBook/MacBook Air/MacBook Pro: preferably Retina display for battery life. (Please be aware that these are not touch screen capable and therefore students may be disadvantaged when it comes to writing formula and drawing diagrams. **In general, we do not recommend these devices for students.**

- ## Minimum SOFTWARE Specifications:

Although students will have access to cloud applications, the following applications are also recommended, useful or maybe compulsory - dependent on the courses being studied.

Software	
Office 2013/O365 Home & Student Edition or equivalent	Microsoft Office is available for St. Matthew's students to download for free. We will load this with the girls on their devices in week 1 of the first term in 2016
Anti-Virus software	Compulsory anti-virus for all devices. Note: New Windows 8/10 computers include Windows defender built in for free. This is a suitable anti-virus program.
Java	For web applications
Flash	For web applications (Although, this is being largely replaced by HTML 5)
Web Browser	Web browser -Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, or Safari

- ## Some Suggested Devices

Microsoft Surface Pro 3 or Pro 4 (64/128/256 GB) (Keyboard purchased separately)	
Microsoft Surface 3 (64/128/256 GB) (Keyboard and stylus pen purchased separately)	
Microsoft Surface Pro 2 (64/128/256 GB) (Keyboard purchased separately)	

Lenovo ThinkPad 10 Gen 2 (Stylus pen purchased separately)	
HP Elite X2 1011	
Toshiba Portégé Z10t-A	

Devices can be purchased at outlets such as Noel Leeming, and Harvey Norman or online through Cyclone.

Cyclone is a New Zealand owned ICT company that provides an efficient procurement capability for NZ All of Government agencies, tertiary institutions, schools and commercial organisations.

BYOD devices and accessories are available to St Matthew's students through the Cyclone web portal:

https://www.cyclone.co.nz/shop.aspx

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