BYOD at St Matthew's Collegiate School

Our e-learning goal is that "learning and e-learning strategies support and enhance the girls' learning across the curriculum." To that end we are encouraging our students to bring their own computer to school.

The more students that connect and bring their devices to class, the more use of these devices can be made by teachers in their teaching programmes, which can help enrich their lessons.

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 to be met.

A Windows laptop is our preferred device.

As a Microsoft 365 school, the operating system on the device needs to be Windows 10 or 11
The school will be supported to upload **Microsoft 365 for free** during the first week of term 1 2024.

Having a full operating system 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.

We do not recommend Apple.

While your daughter might like the look of an Apple**, we do not recommend these devices for our students**. As a "Microsoft" school, teachers plan lessons and select applications and software based on **Windows** operating systems. Some of these may **not work** on an Apple computer or may not have the full functionality. If an Apple laptop is purchased your daughter will need to be able to be proficient using it and able to trouble shoot for herself. We can install only some of the software that the school needs for your daughter's lessons but in order for it to be work well a higher specification such as 512GB hard drive, 8MB RAM and a Quad core processor would be needed. Apple laptops do not have touch screens or stylus pens.

We do not recommend Chromebooks and Winbooks

These machines only run online versions of software that we use at school. The online versions do **not** have the same functionality as the full apps and your daughter will find this a disadvantage in her schoolwork.

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Recommended Minimum Specifications

Minimum Specifications	
Operating System	Microsoft Windows 10 or 11
Processor	Mobile focused Intel Core i3/5/7 or similar is recommended.
Main Memory/RAM	8GB recommended
Hard Drive (SSD/HDD)	256 GB recommended or higher (SSD). Solid State Disk (SSD) instead of traditional Hard Disk Drive (HDD) **is highly recommended** (SSD are much faster and provide longer battery life)
Input	QWERTY keyboard, attached, detachable or Bluetooth
Screen size	10.1" minimum, 15" maximum. **Touch Screen and stylus pen highly recommended.**
External Ports	1 (or more) x Full size USB 2.0/3.0 or an adapter will be needed to convert USBC to USBA
Wireless Adapter	**Wi-Fi compatible – Required Specification** Wireless 802.11n/ac
Battery Life	**Ideally six hours on a single charge**

SOFTWARE Specifications:

Although students will have access to cloud applications, the following applications are provided **FREE** to your daughter and **will be installed at school** during the first week of the school year. Please don't buy or install Microsoft Office or set parental controls on your daughter's laptop until we have set up the BYOD software

Software	
Office 2013/365 Home & Student Edition or equivalent **– FREE through school**	Microsoft Office is available for St. Matthew's students to download for free. **We will help the girls load this on their devices**
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

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Some suitable devices

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. They also offer excellent backup if something goes wrong with the laptop.

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

Cyclone Online Shop - School Selection

Please select St Matthew's Collegiate from the list of schools and browse the selection.

Devices can also be purchased at outlets such as Noel Leeming, PB Tech, JB HiFi and Harvey Norman. The laptops below are examples of devices which meet the specifications. It is by no means an exhaustive list, nor have we tested any of the devices.

HP 15.6" HD Intel Core i7-1255U 8GB RAM 256GB SSD Windows 11 Notebook 	Noel Leeming $849
HP Pavilion x360 14-dy0191tu Convertible 2in1 Laptop 14 FHD Touch Intel Pentium 7505 8GB 256GB SSD 	PB Tech $1106

Microsoft Surface Go 3 10.5" Tablet - Platinum **128GB SSD - 8GB RAM** 	PB Tech $797
Lenovo IdeaPad Flex 5 Flip Laptop 14" FHD Touch Intel i3-1115G4 8GB 500GB SSD 	PB Tech $1214
Asus Vivobook S 14" 2-in-1 Laptop - AMD Ryzen5 8GB-RAM 512GB-SSD 	Harvey Norman $1797

*prices accurate at September 2023

Your daughter may already have a laptop which is of a lower specification than what we currently recommend. You may wish for her to use it at school to begin with to see if it is suitable before investing in a new laptop.

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