



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 that have to be met.

As a “Windows” school, the operating system on the device needs to be Windows 11



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.

What about Apple? **These computers are not suitable for our students.**

We do not recommend these devices for 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 thus disadvantaging your daughter’s studies. Your daughter will need to be able to be proficient using it and able to trouble shoot for herself. Our staff do not use Apple computers in school and are unlikely to be able to help solve technical problems. We can install only some of the software that the school needs for your daughter’s lessons but in order for it to 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.

Chromebooks and Winbooks? **These computers are not suitable for our students.**

We do not recommend these devices for students.

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.

Recommended Minimum Specifications

| Minimum Specifications | |
|------------------------|--|
| Operating System | Microsoft Windows 11 (It is must if you are using the Windows device if you use MAC device no issue) |
| Processor | Intel Core i5 recommended or higher |
| Main Memory/RAM | 8GB minimum (16GB recommended) |
| Hard Drive (SSD) | 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 | |
|--|---|
| Microsoft 365 : Student Edition or equivalent – FREE through school | Microsoft Office applications are 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 computers include Windows defender built in for free. This is a suitable anti-virus program. |
| Web Browser | Web browser - Internet Explorer , Google Chrome , Mozilla Firefox , or Safari |

Please note: Microsoft is going to end support for windows 10 operating system on 14 October 2025.

So, MOE is not recommending using windows 10. If your device is running with windows 10, please upgrade to windows 11 before using the school services.