

Bring Your Own Device Program (BYOD) Specifications



St Clare's College
Seek Wisdom

Welcome

Welcome to St Clare's College. We look forward to welcoming your daughter to the College. During the first week of High School she will participate in induction activities to onboard her device and access networked systems at school. The College does not recommend any one brand of device and this guide is prepared for you as you decide on the best device for your daughter's learning needs. We encourage you to take it with you when purchasing or leasing hardware.

Rationale

St Clare's College uses the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program. Students in Years 7-12 will need to bring their own electronic device: a laptop (Windows or Mac) to school. Mobile phones may be connected to the College network. From 2021 the College will no longer support incoming Year 7 students' iPads or Chromebooks that they may have used in primary school. These are no longer seen as sufficient for College student requirements.

Use of Devices

Students will use their devices in class for a variety of tasks, and the devices must be capable of carrying out these functions. Of course, the requirements for a Year 7 student will be quite different from those of a Year 12 student.

Activities that the device must support

Take notes, write assignments Produce Presentations Produce Spreadsheets	"Office" applications such as Office 365 (free for students and will be supplied in the first week of school) or other free applications such as Open Office, Google Docs, Apple Pages, Apple Number etc.
Record Audio or Video	Webcam and audio input
Play Multimedia Presentation	Needs to play multimedia files
Access Internet and Web-based applications Access Email Access files on the College servers, and upload files to these servers	Browser (e.g. Chrome, Firefox, Safari or Edge)
Image or Video Editing	Free software available for Windows and Mac. Specialist software is also available on College desktops.

Essential Device Specifications for All Types of Devices

Wireless Connectivity

The device must have a wireless card that supports a 5GHz connection. This might be described as "Dual Band Wireless", "Gigabit Wireless", "802.11 abgn", "80211 agn" or "80211 ac"). Devices that do not support this will not connect to our network. (The "a" in the specification is mandatory as "80211 bgn" will not connect.)

Physical Keyboard

Due to the requirements for note-taking, essay writing and so on, a physical keyboard is required for ergonomic reasons. This is also required for online testing such as NAPLAN.

Battery Life

The device needs to allow for six (6) hours of normal school use. It is not possible to charge devices at school.

Web Cam and Sound Recording Capability

The device should allow for recording of video and audio material.

Suitable Sturdy Case

In order to prevent damage to the device, it needs to have a suitable case. Students are to carry their devices in this case at all times.

Other Specifications

If your daughter has an existing device that meets the above requirements, it should be suitable. If you are purchasing a new device, the additional specifications given below should help. In choosing a device, think about the year level your daughter is in, her subject interests and needs, and consider how long you want the device to last. For example, for a student coming into Year 7, a cheaper device lasting a couple of years may be better than a more expensive device lasting four (4) or five (5) years.

In general, devices perform better if they have more memory, more powerful processors and larger hard drives, but lower specifications given below may be quite adequate for what your daughter needs at the time.

In thinking about the expected lifetime of the device, ensure it has a warranty to cover this period of time. We also recommend that you have an insurance or care plan to cover loss, repairs or accidental damage.

We recommend that the device have two web browsers installed such as Chrome and Firefox to assist with network orientation and on-boarding.

Administration Privileges

Your daughter will need to install internet filtering certificates under teacher direction during network onboarding. It would be helpful if they have or know the admin user name and password for the device.

Recommended Laptop Specifications

Memory	8 GB of RAM or better.
Processor	A Celeron (Windows devices) may cause performance issues. We recommend a Core i3 or preferably a Core i5 or better.
Hard Drive	Solid State Devices (SSD) give much better performance than mechanical hard drives (HDD) and are more reliable, although they are more expensive. We recommend minimum 120 GB or better.
Operating System	Windows 10 or better, MacOS X 10.11 or better. Operating Systems changes are the current requirements for NAPLAN.
Screen Size	At least an 11.6" screen, with at least 1280 x 800 or 1366 x 768 resolution.
Security Software	Windows: Microsoft Security Essentials or other security software MacOS X: ClamXav 2 Sentry

Conclusion

If you have any questions regarding the St Clare's College BYOD program, please contact our

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