

# John Edmondson High School

## BYOD - Device Specifications Checklist



### Hardware Specifications

#### Wireless Compatibility

*This is the most important specification as there will be no Internet access if your device does not comply*

Device must have **5GHz - 802.11n** standard to connect to school's Wi-Fi network

*Devices must be dual band to connect to both 2.4GHz and 5GHz, however **5GHz – 802.11n** is a must.*

**3G or 4G connections; All SIM cards must be removed and students must not use any 3G or 4G connections to connect to the Internet or any applications.**

#### Form Factor

Chromebook, Laptop or Tablet

The device **MUST** have a minimum of 9.7" diagonal screen size. A larger screen size is recommended for creative or technical work

It is recommended that the device have a physical keyboard and a wireless mouse to make it easier for typing and navigation.

**A mobile phone is NOT an acceptable device.**

#### Storage Space

Most new machines will meet the needs of students. We are encouraging students to utilise cloud based storage for their work so that they can access it from all locations and devices.

Therefore storage space is not too critical. Below is just a guide;

- Minimum 16 GB storage on a Chromebook or a Tablet.
- Minimum 64 GB storage on a Windows device.

*A minimum of 2GB RAM (memory) is recommended for tablets and Chromebooks and a minimum of 8GB RAM for Laptops.*

#### Battery Life

Advertised battery life of at least **six hours** without charge

**Note:** There are no facilities to charge laptops at school.

**Note:** Students can manage this by ensuring the power save option is enabled on the computer and that the computer is fully charged over night for use at school each day.

#### Operating System

The device must have the most up to date operating system for its type. For example;

- Latest Google Chrome OS
- Microsoft Windows 10, or newer
- Apple MacOS X 10.6 or newer

**Note:** Chrome is the operating system on the Chromebooks. This OS does NOT run any of the Windows products. Instead, it provides a range of applications that work in an internet browser, eg Google Apps. This software can open and edit Microsoft and Adobe documents.

**Up to date Operating system, Antivirus software and application updates are student's responsibility**

### Additional Considerations

The following are not *requirements* of the BYOD program, but are recommended for your consideration.

#### Protective cover/case

Students usually carry their devices in their school bag. It is important that the device is buffered from damage. A hard cover or a case containing memory foam for added protection is essential.

<b>Insurance; Accidental loss &amp; breakage</b>	It is recommended to purchase devices with insurance to include loss and accidental damage; however it is your choice.
<b>Warranty; Length and type of warranty</b>	<p>Devices can be purchased with different warranties. The things to consider here are. The length and type of warranty.</p> <p><b>Length of Warranty:</b> We are expecting the student to have the device for at least a few years. The cost of extended warranty versus replacing the device needs to be considered.</p> <p><b>Types of Warranty:</b> There are two options for types of warranty;</p> <p><b>Back-to-base</b> is the cheapest but would mostly require the device to be packaged and posted back to the supplier for repair.</p> <p><b>Onsite warranty</b> is more expensive and would usually mean that a repairer would come to your home and fix the device.</p> <p>You will need to weigh up the cost of replacing the device against the cost of insurance or extending the warranty. This is a decision parents will need to make at the point of purchase.</p>

## Software Specifications

Students will need to perform various tasks on the device and therefore will need to have relevant software for each task. Rather than look at software in terms of brands, the BYOD approach we are taking means that students will utilise a number of different devices within the classroom with different brands of software. For example a student may use Google Apps, Microsoft Office, Apple Pages or Open Office Text Document to create a word processed document. The software specification is, therefore, about what students will need to do.

There is a growing move towards applications being delivered through the Internet in what has been termed '**the cloud**'. Before purchasing expensive software, please read the following;

### Cloud based software

- **Google Apps** allow the user to log into Google and create documents, presentations, spreadsheets, drawings and forms or simple databases. It provides the ability to work collaboratively and share documents across a variety of devices and operating systems. Google Apps is **free** to students.
- **Microsoft Office 365** offers a similar service to Google Apps and is also **free** to students.

*Students have access to both Microsoft 365 and Google Apps through their DEC portal at **no cost**.*

### Other software not in the cloud that is available free but not essential

- **Adobe Enterprise Agreement:** Adobe software is used for developing online application, graphics, music, web design etc. Adobe has offered a **free** student version of their software that can be downloaded onto student's BYOD. Due to the processing power and memory needed to run Adobe software, a low end BYOD will not be suitable. This will not work on a Chromebook. If students need access to this level of software they will utilise the specialist technology spaces within the school.

<b>Access the internet to research create, communicate and collaborate</b>	Any modern & up to date web browser. Chromebooks run only on Google Chrome. On Windows and Apple based computers you can run Internet Explorer, Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox. These are free to download.
<b>Create documents</b>	Any word processor. Examples include Microsoft Word, Apple Pages, Google documents (free in the cloud)
<b>Create presentations</b>	Any presentation tool. Examples include Microsoft PowerPoint, Apple Keynote, Google presentations (free in the cloud)
<b>Create spread sheets</b>	Any spreadsheet tool. Examples include Microsoft Excel, Apple Numbers, Google spread sheets (free in the cloud)
<b>Take notes</b>	Students can use their device to take notes either through a word processor, or Apps like OneNote, Notability or Evernote

**For more information and answers to FAQ's visit the school's website:  
<http://www.jedmondson-h.schools.nsw.edu.au>**