JSRACS BYOD Programme
Device Specifications and FAQs

With the implementation of the BYOD Programme all secondary students (and parents) can opt to use a Laptop as part of the Schools BYOD Programme. Students who currently use an iPad and find it is still meeting their digital teaching and learning needs in Senior School, can continue to use their iPads.

Should you wish to use or purchase a new device please see the specifications below to assist you with choosing the most appropriate device for your needs.

Any Windows based or Apple Laptop which meets the minimum specifications listed below would be acceptable to use, should a student wish to use a laptop. There is no support for Android devices.

Minimum Specification are listed below. You may choose to extend these. Please note that no helpdesk support service will be provided to laptops that do not meet the minimum specifications.

	General Use *Specifications*		*Specialised Subjects (see FAQ attached)*
	Minimum	*Desirable*	*Desirable*
Processor	Intel Core i3/AMD Ryzen 3 or Higher.	Intel Core i5/AMD Ryzen 5 or Higher. Apple M1	Intel Core i7/AMD Ryzen 7 or higher
RAM	8GB	16GB or higher	16GB or higher
Operating System	Windows 10 (Education, Pro) **OR** MacOS Mojave (version 10.14 or later)	Windows 10 (Education, Pro) **OR** MacOS Big Sur (version 11 or later)	Windows 10 (Education, Pro) **OR** MacOS Big Sur (version 11 or later)
Battery Life	6 hours	8 hours	8 hours
Wireless	802.11 ac	802.11 ac	802.11 ac
Screen Size	13"+	13"+	13"+
Hard Drive Capacity	120GB or higher	256GB or higher	256GB or higher
External Port	USB-A* Audio Out	USB-A* Audio Out	USB-A* Audio Out

* **Where devices only have USB-C ports, student may need to bring their own USB-C video adapter for connecting to School displays (if needed).**

Brand and Model: We make no specific recommendations for one brand over any other.

Accessories: Earphones are required by all students.

Software: All students will be required to enrol to the Mobile Device Management (MDM) system and install Office 365 onto their laptop. Details of how to access and install Office 365 can be found on SEQTA. For new students, instructions and information will be available when they commence at JSRACS. New students unfortunately will be unable to set up their computer until after they have received their school username and password.

A list of frequently answered questions can be found on the next page.

Frequently Asked Questions

What do I need to consider when purchasing a device?	*Outside of the minimum specification, size and weight. You may also want to consider a touch screen option.* *Please review the after-sale service options.* *Please also consider any insurance options there may be. We also strongly recommend the purchase of a bag. A cover for the device may also be helpful to mitigate any damage.*
Why should I consider a laptop?	*In Senior Secondary, students are increasingly required to produce more sophisticated and complex content using a broader range of functions found in applications installed on a computer. In addition, they need to type large amounts of text. A device with a keyboard is preferable to many for this. The iPad was designed as a personal device, is great for accessing content and producing more simple content, often utilizing slimmed down versions of the applications found on computer systems.*
What brand or model do I buy?	*This is a personal choice.*
Why are parents given free choice over which device and where they purchase it?	*This enables parents to seek the best deal for their purchase. They may also seek to finance the laptop through their own chosen vendor.*
What support will the school offer in terms of help?	*As it currently stands, we will ensure students have an account to access the school's network. Our students all have access to free Microsoft Office License as part of this account. No assistance can be provided for laptops that do not meet our minimum specifications. However, we will attempt to diagnose any faults and recommend a course of action to all students.*
Do I need anti-virus software?	*Yes. Avast is an example of a free program commonly. There are also commercially available options.*
How do I care for the device?	*This is the responsibility of the students. Students are reminded that they need to bring their device to school fully charged. Devices should be clearly labelled.*
Repairs and Maintenance	*This is the responsibility of the students and parents. Speak to your vendor about these options.* *Some vendors offer a pickup service.*
When can I purchase a laptop?	*All Year 7-12 students and parents are permitted to purchase a laptop at any time they choose.*
Why do we specify minimum specifications?	*This ensures the devices have capacity to run all the software now and into the near future.* ***Students interested in ICT, Media or Art, may wish to purchase computers with greater specification (see grey highlighted section table in letter).***
What additional hardware will I need to provide?	*All students are required to have a set of earphones + USB-C video adapter if device has no USB-A ports.*
Which Operating Systems are supported?	*Devices must support and have installed a current vendor supported version of their operating system. This includes either MacOS, Windows 10 or iOS. No other Operating systems are supported.*
Why are Android devices not supported?	*To be able to connect to the Wi-Fi at School, all BYO devices need to enrol to the MDM system. This system currently does not support connection of Android devices and hence any Android device used at JSR will not have Wi-Fi or Internet access.*