



Minimum Requirements



The device must have a wifi adaptor that supports WPA2 authentication.

The college wireless network supports 2.4 and 5 ghz 802.11a/b/g/n/ac wireless protocols



The device must have a minimum screen diagonal size of 17cm (7"). Smart phones are not permitted.



The device must have an operating system that supports Office365. Windows 7/8/10, OSX and IOS Operating systems all meet criteria.



The device must have battery capacity that lasts at least 5-6 hours of heavy use.



Keyboards are an advantage. iPad and tablet users should look into Bluetooth keyboards for their devices.



Protective cases/bags are a must in a classroom environment



The device must have some form of virus/malware scanning software installed, free or otherwise.

There are a number of factors to consider when choosing a device for your child. The first question is: what type of investment are you hoping to make? Consider factors such as price and the length of time you realistically expect the device to function. Your child may have a history of dropping, losing, or breaking devices, in which case you may want to purchase something functional but cheap.

Ultimately, BYOD means bringing a device that your child will use comfortably and functionally, and because no one is the same or has the same needs, there are many factors to consider when choosing your student's device.

Please see overleaf for further information regarding choosing a BYOD device for your child.



Should you have any queries with selecting a device, the College ICT staff are happy to provide guidance or advice about particular models.

Please email byod@plc.qld.edu.au for assistance

Bring Your Own Device Program Choosing a Device



OPERATING SYSTEM



Microsoft Windows operating systems are recommended. Windows 7, 8 and 10 will work seamlessly. Operating systems older than Windows 7 are not recommended for use at the college.



Any recent version of a Macbook Air or Pro are recommended. The college recommends use of an alternative browser, such as Chrome or Firefox over Safari which is the default browser for Macs.



iPad 2's, iPad mini's and newer version iPads are recommended for use. Students should be aware that onscreen keyboards alone may not be suitable for some activities.



Android tablets are largely untested, but will connect to the College wireless network and can use Office 365 online. We do not recommend using an Android tablet as a primary device.

Other operating systems such as Linux, Chromebook are untested at the college and as such are not recommended.

Accidental Damage Insurance

Accidental Damage protection is highly recommended. Even with the best case and care, accidents do happen and devices do break. Parents are encouraged to check if portable devices are covered under home insurance. 3rd party ADP insurance can usually also be purchased for the device from the supplier.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

When buying a device for your child, the following items should be considered.

- ◆ **Battery Life** - Ideally the battery should last the full school day without needing charging.
- ◆ **Weight** - Should be light enough to carry around all day, and to/from school.
- ◆ **Screen Size** - As the device will be used for most of the school day, small screens will be impractical. A 17cm or 7 inch screen is the minimum size permitted.
- ◆ **Keyboard** - iPad and tablet users are encouraged to purchase a compatible keyboard. Many users feel an onscreen keyboard is not productive when typing large documents.
- ◆ **Storage** - As the College will be providing an office 365 subscription with 1TB of cloud based storage, lack of on-device storage is not a huge issue.
- ◆ **Connectivity** - The College wireless access points support multiple wireless standards- 2.4 and 5 ghz 802.11 a/b/g/n/ac . The only requirement is the device must be able to connect to WPA2 enterprise wireless network. Most devices produced in the last 5 years provide this functionality.
- ◆ **Recovery Disk** - In the event of an operating system or hard drive failure, it is important that students have access to a recovery DVD or a way to restore their devices back to factory settings. This may be the difference between a free D.I.Y repair and an expensive operating system recovery.

SUPPORT CONSIDERATIONS

Warranty and after-sales support are very important when deciding on a device. The College ICT staff will only provide minimal support to privately owned BYOD devices. In the event of hardware failure, parents are expected to organise the repair of the device - warranty or otherwise.

Out-of-warranty portable devices are generally expensive to repair in the event of failure. It is recommended that the BYOD device be covered by manufacturer or 3rd party warranty for at least the duration it will be used at the College. Some factors to consider when looking at warranty and after-sales support are:

- Can it be repaired under warranty at the place of purchase or does it need to be sent to the manufacturer?
- Length of warranty term.
- Service Level Agreements of warranty term. Eg. Parts only, return to base or onsite warranty etc. Extended warranty terms should be scrutinised extensively.

Backup Solutions

Whilst it is a good idea for students to keep an external backup of their work (USB or otherwise), it is not a requirement. The provided 1TB of Onedrive cloud storage should be used by students to store all their school work. Onedrive files are stored securely on Microsoft servers, and cannot be lost in the case of a device failure.

Virus Protection

Peace Lutheran Colleges internet filter actively scans all web traffic for viruses and malware, but it is not infallible. All students are required to have up-to-date antivirus software installed on their device. There are many free options available for all operating systems.