



Mandatory Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) for Years 5-12

All students in Years 5-12 are required to bring a mobile electronic device as a part of their equipment for learning. A mandatory BYOD program supports learning in a range of ways. It provides opportunity for collaboration, critical thinking and creativity; research; the ability to capture and organise notes as text, audio and video; and can lighten the load with many textbooks now offered in a digital format.

The College also recognises the changing nature of the workplace – with being digitally literate, an essential trait for employment. In addition to learning how devices can support productivity, another component of such literacy is learning self-discipline when using devices professionally. Also of consideration is the outstanding importance of handwriting, of which the HSC still requires as a medium. Students at William Clarke will be involved in both online and written work.

The mandatory BYOD strategy enables teachers to leverage the accessibility and engagement that technology offers and represents the world in which our young people live in, learn in and work in.

BYOD Requirements

1. Wi-Fi
2. Battery life to last a full school day once charged overnight
3. Minimum screen size of 11 inches
4. A keyboard
5. A USB port

Software available for free

Microsoft Office and Adobe Creative Cloud products are available for free download on student BYOD.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. *What sort of device could a student bring?*
We recommend Windows or Mac OS laptop-style devices as we believe this will give students the greatest flexibility. Teachers may allow students to use smartphones in relevant ways as a secondary device to capture still photos, video or audio. iPads and Samsung tablets are not recommended except as secondary devices. They are particularly useful for viewing content however have proven less suitable for content creation.
2. *Will the College provide a secure storage location?*
All students in Years 5-8 are allocated a locker with a College-issued lock. The College provides similar access to lockers for Years 9-12 as requested. Expensive devices should not be stored overnight at the College.
3. *Is a higher powered device (like a higher-end laptop) more desirable for elective subjects involving video/audio/graphic editing?*
Computer labs are provided in specialist areas (Music, TAS, Visual Arts, Drama). Some students still choose higher-powered devices to enable elective-based work to be continued outside of the classroom.



4. *Is damage to my child's device covered by the College's insurance policy?*
The College does not take responsibility for any loss or damage caused to student property. When deciding on a device, families should take into consideration the maturity of their child; any additional warranties available for purchase; and the life expectancy of the device.

5. *Who can I speak if I have further questions?* Contact Mr Rohan Simpson at ras@wcc.nsw.edu.au for any further assistance with BYOD.