



Heathmont College BYOD Notebook Program

Heathmont College has worked extensively with staff and students to integrate notebook devices within the school curriculum, making them a valuable learning tool in the classroom. Devices are used across a range of learning areas to provide varied learning experiences and better outcomes for students.

This BYOD program document outlines key details about bringing a laptop purchased elsewhere for use at Heathmont College.

There is no curriculum impact between selecting either the School-Recommended Laptop or a BYOD Laptop - all suitable laptops will behave similarly on the school network provided they meet the requirements listed below; however note that the responsibility of repairs and warranty side falls upon the families who opt to bring a BYOD Device

BYOD Notebook minimum system requirements:

If purchasing elsewhere, the following requirements must be met:

- A notebook running either Windows 10, Windows 11 or Mac OS X natively.
- At least 10 hours of recommended battery life
- Minimum 4GB of RAM (we highly recommend at least 8GB of RAM)
- Supporting a working 802.11AC wireless adapter.
- Has at least a 120 GB hard drive
- No iPads - No Chromebooks - No Linux devices
- The initial Windows / Mac setup has been completed before bringing to school
- Notebooks with "Windows S-Mode" should be avoided if possible or upgraded at home (for free) before being brought to school.

In addition to these minimum requirements above, parents/guardians should be mindful of other physical aspects of the laptops selected, including:

- Size
- Weight
- Battery Life
- Warranty Support
- Self-repair of the device if damaged
- Accidental Damage Protection
- Labeling of laptop / Charger

Frequently Asked Questions

Are there alternatives to the BYOD Program?

This BYOD Program is for families who already have a suitable device, or want the flexibility to purchase a different laptop from the recommended models.

Heathmont College also has the “Recommended Notebook Program guide” that details how to purchase the recommended devices through our partnered laptop provider. This guide can also be found on the school website on our “Notebook Program” website page.

What Software is needed on the notebook?

All students get free access to key learning software such as Microsoft Office 365 (Word, PowerPoint, Excel etc.) and Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, InDesign etc.) These licenses are provided to all students via their Department of Education login. Installation instructions and assistance can be provided via the ICT office.

There may be additional software or online learning resources purchasable through your child's booklist.

Can I still get ICT Support?

Yes, students with any device meeting our required specifications (page 1) can visit our ICT office anytime and get assistance or advice with their laptop!

What if my child's laptop is damaged or encounters a hardware issue?

Due to the nature of a “Bring Your Own Laptop” program and the variation between different notebook models available, Heathmont College cannot facilitate any repairs and warranty claims on the behalf of parents.

Should your child experience any warranty and accidental damage issues, they must be managed by the parent/guardian in conjunction with the original notebook supplier or insurer. Please note that many consumer level suppliers only provide an offsite warranty that is typically valid for one year.

In contrast to this BYOD program option, all laptops purchased under the Heathmont Recommended Notebook program are handled by the school's IT team, and additionally come with a 3-year on-site warranty as well as optional accidental damage insurance. This is something to consider when choosing the BYOD program.

Purchasing Provision

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure laptops purchased for use at Heathmont College comply with the specifications listed in this document – Heathmont College provides no warranties or assurances that laptops purchased outside of the recommended specifications are suitable for use within the school.

Some retailers may launch marketing campaigns that imply Heathmont College has provided a list of BYOD devices that are suitable for use at our school. Heathmont College only ever collaborates with our partnered notebook provider listed in the Recommended Notebook Program.

Any other platform that claims to assist in buying a BYOD device specifically for use at Heathmont college is not affiliated with Heathmont College in any way.

Do I need Antivirus and Anti-Malware protection software?

Microsoft Windows 10 and 11 comes pre-installed with Windows Defender suite for free, which is more than suitable for the purpose of protecting your laptop.

Each family can evaluate their own need for additional / 3rd party protection.

Can students access inappropriate internet content while at school?

Heathmont College implements an Internet Firewall provided by the Department of Education for web filtering during school hours only. This ensures that students do not have access to inappropriate internet content during school hours.

When taking the laptop home, there is no school enforced internet or application filtering when connected to a home network.

Who is responsible for backing up student data?

It is the responsibility of all students to backup all school work on all devices (purchased through school, or elsewhere) and ensure they keep a backup of all important files.

It is recommended that families utilise an inexpensive USB external storage device for this purpose. Students also have access to Microsoft OneDrive, an online cloud-based storage facility which is also recommended to be configured by students.

Can I just keep using the notebook my child purchased in Years 7-9?

Yes, if you previously purchased a Recommended notebook in Years 7-9 and your child has reached year 10 and the device is in good condition – They may continue to use the device while it is still functional. But generally, these laptops will be quite old and it is recommended to investigate upgrading to ensure seamless educational opportunities for your child.

The laptop will be transition into a BYOD laptop, as all support, warranty and accidental damage coverage has expired. LWT can provide quotes for repair if the device parts are still in production.

In addition to this, it is important to note that notebooks that are more than three years old are often unreliable and their use is not advised due to degraded battery life and the potential for data loss.

Are there any agreements or documents that needs signing?

Heathmont College ensures families and students are aware of our Acceptable ICT Usage Agreement. All students will agree to the terms of acceptable Device usage while on campus.

The office will provide this form upon enrollment, however if you are interested in reading this document, ask our front office, or consult our policies on the school website.