



## Bring Your Own Device (BYOx) Laptop Program 2026 - Year 4

### Laptop Specification Information

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#### What does my student need to bring to school each day?

- A Windows laptop that meets the minimum specifications as listed below in the Minimum Specifications for Windows Laptops section

**NOTE:** Devices with ChromeOS (Chromebooks), AndroidOS and Linux operating systems are not able to be connected to the Department of Education BYOxLink (EQNet) wireless networks, and should not be brought to school.

- Other required items listed below

**NOTE:** Laptop and all accessories must be named to allow the owner to be easily identified

#### Why only Windows laptops?

- Provides a standardised teaching and learning environment for staff and students
- Ensures compatibility with school owned computers to minimise connectivity and user issues
- Students can create and use a wide range of complex digital content across all curriculum areas
- Laptops are the most suitable and cost-effective device to meet all curriculum requirements at this point in time in upper primary school; the minimum specifications generally provide a three-year laptop lifespan subject to individual use and care

Required MINIMUM Specifications for Windows Laptops	
Laptop size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minimum 11-inch screen size <b>*maximum 14" recommended to avoid breakage and minimise weight</b></li></ul>
Operating System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Windows 11 – 64bit (recommended)</li></ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Laptops with ChromeOS (Chromebooks), AndroidOS and Linux operating systems are not able to be connected to the Department of Education BYOxLink (EQNet) wireless network</p>
CPU – Processor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 12th Gen CPU (minimum)</li><li>• Intel CPU i5 Processor (minimum)</li><li>• AMD Ryzen 5 (minimum)</li></ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> New laptops with "System on a Chip" (SoC), including Snapdragon X Plus, Snapdragon X Elite or other ARM 64 base CPUs are not currently compatible with and cannot be connected to the Department of Education's BYOxLink (EQNet) wireless network at this point in time</p>



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<b>RAM – Memory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>8GB (minimum) or <b>16GB (recommended)</b></li></ul>
<b>SSD – Storage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>256GB SSD (minimum) or <b>512GB SSD (recommended)</b></li></ul> <p><i>*Students needing to store large (e.g. audio/video/animation etc.) files should consider purchasing a minimum 512GB SSD external hard drive and move these files off the laptop onto the external storage</i></p>
<b>GPU Graphics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Integrated UHD/Iris Xe Graphics (minimum) or higher</li><li>AMD Radeon Integrated Graphics</li></ul>
<b>Network – Wireless Connectivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>5GHz Dual Band AC/AX compatible wireless</li><li>Wi-Fi 5 (802.11 ac) or higher</li></ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> laptops with only 2.4 GHz wireless connectivity will not connect to the Department of Education BYOxLink (EQNet) wireless network</p>
<b>Battery Life*</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>6-8 hours of continual use <i>*The laptop should be shut down or set to hibernate when not in use, and only used for learning and assessment tasks at school to lower battery drain and heat generation. Effective classroom pedagogy will ensure laptops are used only as needed to support curriculum objectives – this time will vary day-to-day. Use of devices will be balanced with other teaching and learning tasks.</i></li></ul>
<b>Screen/LCD Display</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minimum HD (High Definition)</li></ul>
<b>Ports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>USB Port (USB 3.0 + USB Type-C)</li></ul>
<b>Integrated speakers, microphone and webcam</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Standard in laptops</li></ul>

Required Items	
<b>Headphone with microphone to suit laptop model</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Used for viewing and narrating videos, recording audio, NAPLAN and other assessment etc</li></ul>
<b>Hard protective case to suit laptop model</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hard protective water-resistant laptop case</li><li><b>NOTE:</b> Rubber sleeves do not protect laptops. Warranty and/or accidental damage insurance may be voided if suitable case not used, or laptops placed directly into student bags without a case. Case must be strong enough to protect the laptop inside the student's school bag</li></ul>



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Other Recommended Items to be Considered for Purchasing	
Mouse	USB or wireless
Minimum 3 year warranty with next day on-site support and repair <b>NOTE:</b> must be arranged to be done at home – can't be repaired at school	Parents/carers should investigate Australian Consumer Law prior to purchasing additional warranty and seek clarification from vendors what repairs and/or replacements would be covered under this law. <a href="https://www.accc.gov.au/consumers/consumer-rights-guarantees/warranties">https://www.accc.gov.au/consumers/consumer-rights-guarantees/warranties</a>
Minimum 3 year Accidental Damage insurance	May be available through home contents insurer or vendor at additional cost.
Adaptors and USB hubs	This will depend on the make and model of the laptop purchased, and individual student requirements. See also notes in Minimum Specifications above.
Backup up storage device	For example, USB or external hard drive - size depends on amount and size of files the individual student will need to store. See also notes in Minimum Specifications section.
Additional laptop charge cable with power pack, or power pack suitable for laptop make and model	This may be useful if living across two households or as a spare. Laptop batteries can also degrade over time, so having a power pack suitable for the laptop make and model can assist with the laptop having charge during the whole school day.

## Purchasing Considerations:

A wide range of computer vendors and laptop makes and models should be investigated, and “total cost of ownership” considered. **The cheapest laptop may not be the most economical over the life of the laptop** - usually minimum 3-4 years depending on individual usage and care, and the laptop build quality and hardware. Consider included components, technical support, warranty and accidental damage arrangements. Upgraded laptop specifications generally provide better performance over a longer period of time, depending on individual usage.