BYOD - Minimum Requirements

Please note that the below are the **minimum specifications**. Anything above this will mean the device will likely function better for your child and last longer, as software updates over time are getting larger and use more space and resources.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you are looking to purchase a device and would like advice if it is suitable.

Specifications:

- A 2-in-1 device (this will 'flip' to a tablet and allows students to draw/write easily)
- 64 Bit processor, minimum Intel i3 (Gen 11) or AMD Ryzen 3
- 16GB RAM recommended (required for Digital Photography students), 8GB absolute minimum
- Minimum 128GB drive (Solid State Drive (SSD)), 256GB ideal
- Screen size 11" – 14"
- Keyboard, for typing (i.e. not a tablet with a screen only)
- Touchscreen (active pen compatible)
- Active pen (for drawing/writing in class)
- USB-C Charging
- Ability to connect earphones/headphones.
- Minimum battery life of 8 hours
- Lightweight, under 1.5 kg
- Case for protection in school bag (recommended)
- Mouse (optional)
- Warranty: consider how long this is and how long to expect from the laptop you are purchasing. Check what type (i.e. on-site repair or do you need to post it for repair)
- **Highly recommended**: Windows 10/11 (NOT S mode)

➢ *We recommend strongly you do not purchase a Chromebook, Android Tablet, or an iPad. We have found that these devices lack the ease of use and integration with other technology in our classrooms.*

➢ *We request USB-C charging where possible, as these are chargers we have at school, so will be able to assist with charging laptops from time to time.*

➢ *Please do not provide Internet data (via smart phones or 3G/4G dongles), as GHS provides secure (child safe) Internet at school via the WiFi.*

➢ *Note that your child receives FREE Microsoft and Adobe software, so there is no extra to purchase other than the computer above.*

Further Information on Minimum Requirements

What your device needs to handle	What you need to ask for
Different school subjects In a typical day a student might type an English assignment, jot down history notes, figure out mathsequations, video a science experiment and record a speech. They need a device that lets them work effectively in every subject area.	**10" (minimum) screen, touchscreen and keyboard** • A minimum of a 10" screen but prefer 12". Larger (i.e. 14") for creative or technical work • A keyboard for typing assignments
Creativity, innovation and composition Students need to be able to create, construct knowledge and collaborative on their devices. This means they should be able to install apps and or full software applications	**Runs both apps and programs** • Able to run programs such as Microsoft Office, Adobe Photoshop or AutoCad • Able to install apps as needed
Working from different places Students need to connect to the school wirelessnetwork and home internet	**Dual Band Wi-Fi Access** • Make sure it has 2.4Ghz or 5Ghz dual band wireless to access the school network. This should be standard in laptops purchased now
The school backpack Keep it light on their back	**Lightweight** • Aim for under 1.5Kg
6-hour days No one wants to run out of battery half-way through the school day	**6-8-hour battery life minimum** • Make sure it lasts a 6-hour school day • Look for a modern processor to help stretch battery life further

Lots of different software

Make sure the device can run demanding programs for music, design, science and technology classes. And also for future software demands (they keep getting bigger!)

High performance

- For example, an Intel Core™ i3 in Windows machineis fine and will last your child longer – 3 years at least. A better processor (Intel Core™ i5 or i7) will probably see your child through more years of school but will cost much more
- Ensure Apple products that are within the last two versions

Note-taking and brainstorming

Students may prefer to make notes, sketch, write maths equations, science formulae and foreign languages with a pen.

Pen

- Teachers in Art and Science at GHS are actively using pens/styluses for drawing and note-taking
- It is not mandatory, but a digitised pen with active screen assists for note-taking, sketching, writing math and science equations - this is a great feature.

Rough and tumble

Your child will probably drop the device and may spill things on it, so it needs to be tough and protected

Durable for everyday school use

- Purchase a protective case
- Look for solid state drives

Lots of files, videos, music and more

Students need plenty of room for applications and their own files

Storage

- At least 128GB of storage in laptops, ultrabooks and two-in-ones. 256GB is better
- Preferably a solid-state drive (SSD)