

Heathfield Laptop Recommendations

At Heathfield School, we support both Windows and macOS devices. Our BYOD (Bring-Your-Own-Device) network allows students to connect to our monitored Wi-Fi¹, provides access to shared resources through Office 365, and access to licensed software where required for specific subjects.

Any computer used on the school network should comply with the following specifications:

- Laptop with keyboard running Windows 11 or an Apple Laptop running macOS 15 (Sequoia) onwards.
- At least 256 GB of storage, however 512 GB is recommended.
- At least 16 GB RAM.
- Able to run Microsoft Office 365 (we will provide a license as part of the student's network account).
- Photography, Art, or Music students may require more powerful computers.
- Other considerations: modern computing devices are thinner and less upgradeable. Most laptop computers are not upgradeable after purchase. Given computing devices will routinely last for 5+ years of use, consider the expected uses over this length of time.

We do not recommend or support tablet devices such as an iPad or iPad Pro as the primary computing device for students – they are unable to run the software some subjects require.

DIMENSIONS & CHARGING FACILITIES

Heathfield provides LapSafes for safe storage and overnight charging. For the computers to fit we recommend a maximum screen size (diagonal) of 14". Computers with a battery life of at least 6 hours are also strongly recommended as chargers remain in the LapSafes – they are not allowed in the classrooms for health & safety reasons.

INITIAL SETUP

New computers must be brought to the IT Office for initial setup. We ensure that network access is set up with the right security certificates for our WiFi and web filtering. We do not "lock down" or otherwise make any other changes to the operating system. Administrator-level access is required for software installation; please disable parental controls during the setup stage.

PRINTING

Direct printing from computers is not available – students can print using the PaperCut Web Printing service (available in school) or save files into their personal network folder and print from one of the school computers in TU6, Art, or Photography. All students are given a print quota annually, adequate for all prep and coursework needs.

CASES & INSURANCE

Computers can have a hard life at school and are prone to being knocked and dropped. Regardless of the model of device you choose and given students must carry their computers

¹ All Internet access requires the installation of a security certificate – staff and student Internet access at Heathfield is filtered and monitored according to our Internet Filtering Policy.

with them through the school day along with their books, we strongly recommend getting a soft case to protect it from knocks and scrapes. It is also our recommendation that you consider accidental damage insurance in the event of a repair or replacement being required. Broken screens and damaged charger cables are especially common.

For more information, please contact systems@heathfieldschool.net