



**The Ponds High School  
Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Program Device Specifications  
and Minimum System Requirements**

Under the BYOD Program, personal computing devices can be brought to school to assist with student learning. This device needs to meet **Device Specifications** that are recommended by the school and listed below.

The device specifications identify the minimum system requirements/hardware specifications for student devices and offer guidance on some suggested makes and models so that parents are fully informed about requirements.

While all devices meet the minimum system requirements/hardware specifications, the school strongly recommends that students **choose a laptop device** to ensure that the BYOD Program maximizes their learning experiences.

Device Type	Windows Laptop	Mac Laptop
Operating System	Windows 10	OSX 10.14 or higher
Wireless (See note below)	<b>5GHz 802.11n or 802.11abgn or 802.11ac</b>	<b>5GHz 802.11n or 802.11abgn or 802.11ac</b>
Minimum Screen Size	11"	11"
Minimum Storage Capacity	64GGB SSD or HDD	64GB SSD or HDD
RAM	4GB	4GB
Minimum Battery Life	6 hours	6 hours
Device Example	HP Probook 11 EE Used by NSW Department of Education  Lenovo X131e	11-inch MacBook Air

**PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR SCHOOL DOES NOT ADVISE TO PURCHASE OR USE CHROMEBOOKS OR TABLETS FOR A BYOD DEVICE OR ANY DEVICE THAT USES THE CHROME OPERATING SYSTEM.**

**Please Note:**

The DET wireless network installed in high schools only operates on the 5GHz band. Devices with 802.11bgn or 802.11n 2.4GHz only may not be able to connect. See minimum requirements page.

Ask this question before you buy a device for BYOD: *"The NSW Department of Education has a 5GHz only wireless network. Will this device connect to the 5GHz band?"*

**Do not purchase a device for BYOD unless the answer is "yes".**

## Hardware Specifications

The device must meet all of the following requirements:

<b>Form Factor</b>	Laptop, or convertible device <i>A convertible device must have a physical keyboard attachment with separate keys for A – Z and 0 – 9 and which physically move when depressed. It must run one of the specified operating systems.</i>
<b>Physical Dimensions</b>	Minimum Screen Size: 11" (laptops) Maximum Screen Size: 15"
<b>Wireless Compatibility</b>	Device must have <b>5GHz</b> support <i>This may be advertised as "Dual Band Wireless", "802.11abgn", "802.11agn", "802.11ac"</i> <b>Note:</b> Devices marketed as "802.11bgn" do <b>not</b> support the required standard.
<b>Battery Life</b>	Advertised battery life of at least six hours
<b>Additional Recommendations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximum weight: 2kg</li> <li>• Minimum RAM (laptops): 4GB</li> <li>• Accidental loss and breakage insurance</li> <li>• Extended warranty (3years)</li> </ul>

Please take special note of the Wireless Compatibility requirements. This is the most difficult requirement for you to verify for Windows laptops. If you are unsure, consider purchasing a recommended device.

## Software Specifications

The device must meet all of the following requirements:

<b>Operating System</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microsoft Windows 10 - try to keep this updated</li> <li>• Apple MacOS X 10.14 or newer (again, please try to keep this updated)</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows RT</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> All tablets are <b>intentionally omitted</b> from the Hardware Specification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The existing Microsoft Office and Adobe products provided on DET laptops may be provided to all DET students free of charge. How to guides are provided on CANVAS showing the download process.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Education Software</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Web browser Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Safari 6 or newer</li> <li>• Word Processor, Spreadsheet &amp; Presentation Package e.g. Microsoft Office, OpenOffice, Google Apps</li> <li>• Mathematical plotting using the Wolfram Alpha website</li> <li>• PDF Reader e.g. Adobe Acrobat Reader or compatible</li> <li>• Flash and Java (latest versions)</li> </ul>
<b>Backup</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cloud or USB based backup solution <i>Students must ensure that their files are regularly backed up. Note that not all "cloud" based solutions will work through the DET network.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Security Software</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Windows 10 or newer laptops should run <b>Microsoft Security Essentials or equivalent</b></li> <li>• MacOS X laptops should run <b>ClamXav 2 Sentry or equivalent</b></li> </ul> <p><i>Antivirus and antimalware programs must be kept up to date in order to be effective.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Antivirus such as <b>Norton</b> and <b>mcafee</b> may cause difficulty when attempting to connect To the schools WIFI (please try to avoid these antivirus software)</li> </ul>