Connected learning: BYOD and device specifications

1. Introduction: BYOD learning

- **About the program:** The BYOD program provides students with expanded resources and enables them to take ownership of their learning and approach creative problem-solving.
- **Why Windows and Mac only?:** Advancing students require industry-standard software like Adobe Photoshop, AutoCAD, and Fusion 360. Instead of maintaining a school computer fleet, the school will provide software licences directly to students to install on their own high-performance Windows or Mac devices.
- **National testing compliance:** Moving exclusively to full desktop operating systems ensures all student devices inherently meet the hardware and locked-down browser requirements for Minimum Standards testing and NAPLAN online assessments.
- **Digital resources:** The school provides digital resources and online portals across various year groups, accessed via single sign-on.

2. Device specifications and requirements

Please note that Tablets, iPads, Android devices, and Chromebooks are not supported devices.

Component	Minimum Requirement
Supported platforms	**Windows Laptops:** Windows 11 Home or Pro (Windows S mode must be disabled). **MacBooks:** macOS 12 Monterey or later.
Processor (CPU)	**Windows Laptops:** Intel Core i3 / AMD Ryzen 3 or higher. **MacBooks:** Apple M1 or higher.
Memory (RAM)	8 GB minimum.
Storage	128 GB SSD minimum (256 GB SSD recommended).
Display and input	11-inch minimum screen size. Must include a physical QWERTY keyboard suitable for touch-typing.
Audio and video	Integrated HD Webcam (720p minimum), built-in speakers, integrated microphone, and 3.5mm combo jack.

3. Software, cloud collaboration and support

- **Canvas learning management system (LMS):** Canvas serves as the school's central Learning Management System. Students will use Canvas for coursework and online learning tasks.
- **Google workspace integration:** The school remains a Google Apps environment, which integrates directly with Canvas. Students will continue to use Google Docs, Slides, Sheets, and Drive for reliable cloud-based storage and real-time collaboration.
- **Specialist software licences:** The school will provide licences for heavy-duty specialist programs (e.g., Adobe Creative Cloud, CAD). Students are responsible for installing these on their local BYOD machines.
- **Required baseline software:** An up-to-date web browser (Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Mozilla Firefox, or Safari) and updated Antivirus software.
- **Technical support:** School IT staff will assist with Wi-Fi connection and internet access. For hardware issues, families must contact a technical support service, as school staff cannot repair personal devices to avoid invalidating warranties.
- **Insurance and liability:** The security of the device rests with the owner; the school takes no responsibility for stolen, lost, or damaged devices. A robust, protective carry case or sleeve is recommended.

4. Day-to-day use and connectivity

- **Battery and charging:** Devices must have a minimum battery life of 6 hours to last a full school day without charging. Devices must be fully charged before school, as charging cannot be provided due to Work Health and Safety issues.
- **Wi-Fi connection:** Devices must support Wi-Fi 5 (802.11ac) or newer.
- **Cellular data restrictions:** 4G/5G cellular connections are not permitted. Students must solely use the school's Wi-Fi service whilst on premises to ensure cloud-based web filtering is applied.
- **Web filtering:** The school applies web filtering to prevent access to inappropriate, potentially harmful, or illegal content, as well as social media sites.

5. Acceptable use policy (Smart devices)

In alignment with the NSW Department of Education's precedent to clear classrooms of unnecessary distractions, smart devices are not to be used whilst on school grounds.

- **Conditions of use:**
  - Smartphones must be turned off and put away out of sight from the time a student arrives until they leave school grounds.
  - Smartwatches must be in 'aeroplane/school mode' so calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the day.
- **Breaches and consequences:**
  - **1st breach:** Confiscation of the device by any staff member, returned to the student at the end of the class.
  - **2nd breach:** Confiscation of the device, stored in Student Services, and a parent/caregiver will be required to attend to collect it.
  - **Repeated breaches:** Managed in accordance with the School's Behaviour Management Policy.