



Who does this program apply to?

All students in Years 7-12 are expected to use a dedicated laptop and to bring it to school every day, having charged it overnight to last the full school day. Teachers in these year levels will set class and homework tasks that can only be completed by using a student laptop. This will also be required to access textbooks, websites and other resources that are only provided in digital format.

Why a 1:1 Laptop Program?



- A laptop is essential for the now current Australian Curriculum (ACARA v9) which has ICT Literacy capability interwoven into all subject areas supporting students to develop the skills and knowledge to, create, manage, communicate and investigate data and ideas and to solve problems.
- It drives student-centred independent learning and enables students to present their knowledge in multiple different formats.
- Research shows that increased access to ICT increases student engagement and motivation in their learning experience.
- Creates a more diverse classroom with a wider range of teaching and learning resources available.
- Takes advantage of digital textbooks and rich learning platforms
- Links with our Essington Connect learning portal.

BYOD or School-owned?

Student laptops are provided through one of two approved methods:

1. **Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)** Families may supply an existing or new laptop that meets the school's minimum technical requirements. Parents are responsible for purchasing, maintaining, and repairing the device.
2. **School-owned** The school provides and manages a standardised student laptop. An annual technology levy of \$600 per student, payable in 10 monthly instalments, covers the device, required software, warranty and accidental damage protection, and access to a pool of loan laptops when required. **Which method of provision applies?**

The school-owned laptop program applies to Year 7 students in 2026.

Students in Years 8 and 9 may choose to opt into the school-owned laptop program in 2026 or remain in the BYOD program. From 2027, the school-owned program will be mandatory for Years 7–9.

	2026	2027
Year 7	School-owned	School-Owned
Years 8 & 9	BYOD or School-Owned (opt-in)	School-Owned
Years 10-12	BYOD	BYOD

Use of existing parent-owned BYOD laptops

For existing parent-owned laptops to be used in the program they need to be fit for the purpose, in good working order, and not so old/slow as to be a hindrance to the student doing their learning. Laptops have a hard life in the hands of students and an average life expectancy of around 3-4 years in most cases. Internal non-user-replaceable batteries often fail within this timeframe as well, due to the Territory climate.

BYOD Laptop Minimum Requirements

To ensure effective classroom use, the school has set out minimum requirements for a BYOD laptop to be used in the school program. See the table of minimum requirements at the end of this document.

Purchasing a new BYOD Laptop

Parents can purchase from any provider including local stores such as Harvey Norman, JB Hi-Fi, Officeworks, Joyce Mayne and The Good Guys. The only requirement is to purchase a laptop that meets our minimum requirements provided at the end of this document.

Software Provided for BYOD Laptops

Parents do NOT need to buy Microsoft Office 365, Antivirus or Cyber Safety software for the BYOD laptop. The school will provide licences for these. Licences are valid while students remain enrolled at the school.

Cyber Safety

At school, we provide a full suite of internet filtering and monitoring through our firewall and the Linewize system. We are working towards providing an extended monitoring service for outside of school which parents may opt-in to. More details will be provided when this becomes available.

Acceptable Use Agreement

Students will be required to sign an Acceptable Use agreement that sets out the school's expectations of online behaviour, good digital citizenship and proper care of the laptop.

Device Management for BYOD laptops

Parents must agree for the BYOD laptop to be enrolled in our Microsoft Intune Mobile Device Management (MDM) system. This will assist students to access the Essington Wi-Fi Network on their BYOD laptop. After enrolment we will remote install an Education Pro upgrade to the Windows operating system, school Wi-Fi profile, Microsoft Defender 365 antivirus, the Linewize Cyber Security protection system, and any other required educational software.

BYOD laptop enrolment

The enrolment process is best undertaken at home, connecting to your home wi-fi as the updates and installs can take several hours. Instructions on what to do are listed at the end of this document.

Laptop from another school

If the existing (BYOD) laptop you have was provided by another school, it may have management software or settings that lock it to the other school and prevent it from being managed at Essington. You may need to ask the ICT department at the other school to remove their management from the device or release it from management in their systems before it can be used at Essington.

School-owned laptop pool

The school will roll over each laptop in its pool after 3 years to ensure that all laptops are recent manufacture and suitable for the purpose. Whilst all laptops in the pool will initially be new, a laptop allocated to a student from the pool may have been used previously – but will be in good condition and less than 3 years old. Laptops are required to be returned to the school when a student leaves.

Help and advice

If you need help with confirming an existing laptop is acceptable, selecting a new laptop for purchase, getting a laptop setup for BYOD, or any other questions, please email ict.support@essington.nt.edu.au or phone the ICT Support hotline on 79138159 between 8am and 4pm on school days.

Joan Judd
Head of Senior School

Peter Kent
Director ICLT

Essington BYOD Laptop Minimum Requirements (updated 03/11/2025)

The key principles for these are:

- able to run the Microsoft Office 365 desktop applications
- able to connect to the Essington school Wi-Fi network at a satisfactory speed
- sufficient capacity for effective student use with current applications
- supported by the Microsoft Intune MDM

Specification	Minimum for Existing Laptops	Minimum for New Laptop	Suggested for students specialising in Media Studies
Device Type	Windows 11 or Apple Mac OS X Laptop or 2-in-1 convertible with physical keyboard. Not a Chromebook	Windows 11 or Apple Mac OS X Laptop or 2-in-1 convertible with physical keyboard. Not a Chromebook	Windows 11 or Apple Mac OS X Laptop or 2-in-1 convertible with physical keyboard. Not a Chromebook
Wi-Fi	Wireless 11ac (5GHz) and WPA Enterprise Security	Wireless 11ac (5GHz) and WPA Enterprise Security	Wireless 11ax (5GHz) and WPA Enterprise Security
Processor (CPU)	4 cores and 2GHz, Intel i5, AMD Ryzen 5, Apple M1 or better	4 cores and 2GHz, Intel i5, AMD Ryzen 5, Apple M1 or better	8 cores and 2GHz, Intel i7, AMD Ryzen 7, Apple M1 or better
Screen Size (diagonal)	12-inch (preferably 13-inch)	12.3inch (preferably 13-inch)	14-inch
Screen Resolution	1280 x 768	1536 x 1024 (preferably FHD 1920 x 1080)	FHD 1920 x 1080
Touchscreen	Optional	Optional	Optional
RAM Memory	8	8	16
Hard Drive Storage	256GB SSD	256GB SSD	512GB SSD
Graphics	Integrated	Integrated	2GB GPU (Dedicated)
Battery Life	6hrs	6hrs	8hrs
Webcam and microphone	Yes	Yes	Yes
Headphone Socket	Yes	Yes	Yes
Protective case/sleeve	Yes	Yes	Yes

Most laptops purchased in the last 3 years are likely to meet the minimum requirements. If your laptop is older or you are concerned about whether your laptop may not be adequate, please take a photo of the model number (usually on the underside of the laptop) and email to ict.support@essington.nt.edu.au for advice.

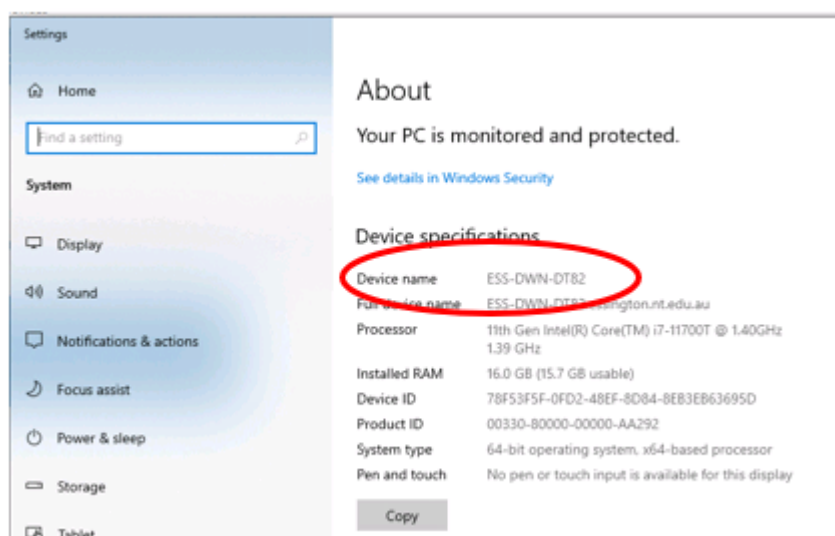
How to prepare your BYOD laptop for use at Essington

Step 1: Connect BYOD laptop to Wi-Fi

At Home: Connect the BYOD laptop to your home Wi-fi



Step 2: Get your BYOD laptop's Device/Computer Name

For a Windows laptop: log in and once it has finished booting the desktop will appear. Type **about** in the search box pictured below and select **about your PC** from the search selections. The following screen should appear. Take note of the device name circled below:





For a Mac laptop:

Recent/New Macs (running MacOS Ventura 13 or later):

- On your Mac, choose Apple menu  > System Settings, click General  in the sidebar, then click About on the right. (You may need to scroll down.)

Older Macs (running MacOS Monterey 12 or earlier):

- On your Mac, choose Apple menu  > System Preferences, then click Sharing .
- The computer name for your Mac appears at the top of Sharing preferences.

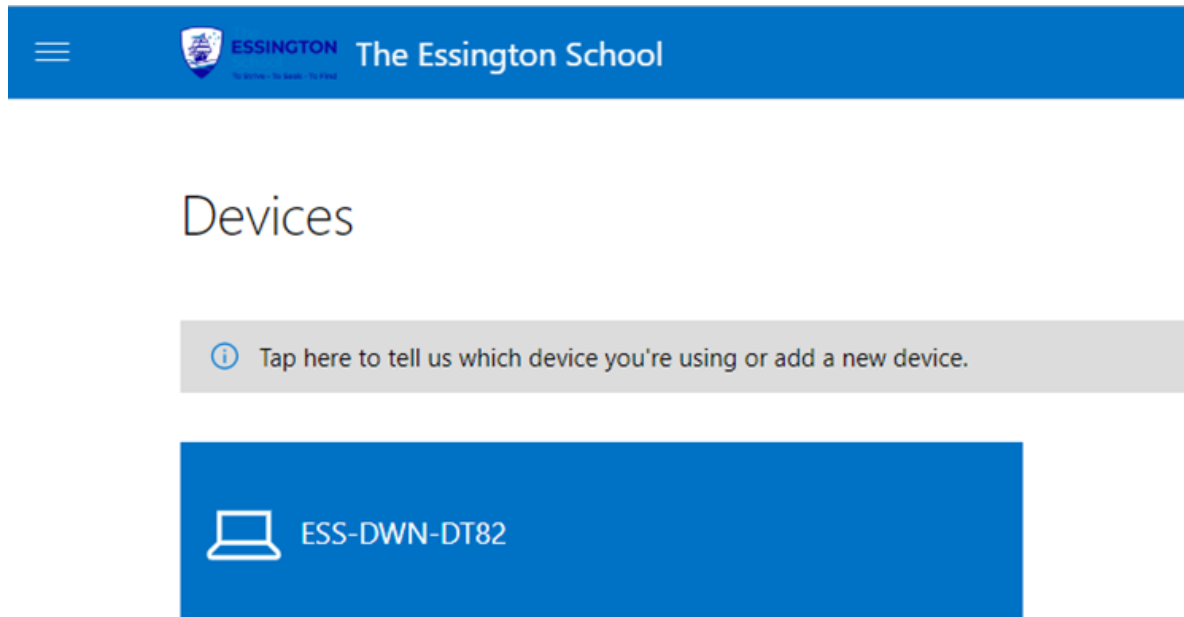
Make a note of the device/computer name as you will need it for Step 3.

Step 3: Enrol your BYOD laptop in the Essington Company Portal

This step must be done on the BYOD laptop, it cannot be done on another computer.

Click on the following link to go to the Essington Company Portal devices page. You will need to sign in with your Essington email address and password.

<https://portal.manage.microsoft.com/devices>



Check to see if there is a device name listed in a blue box like the one above, that matches the device name you took note of earlier – if so click on it, otherwise click on the grey bar "Tap here to tell us which device you're using or add a new device" and then click the Add button. If you are asked what type of device you have select "Student BYOD laptop". This should complete the enrolment process.

If the Company Portal page reports that your laptop is already registered and does not give the option to enrol, you could try using the Company Portal app instead. Check if it is already downloaded by typing Company Portal App into the search box and clicking on the result. Otherwise go to the Microsoft Store app or the Mac App Store and search for Company Portal. Check that the app you select is from Microsoft. Download and install the app. Open the app and enrol your laptop.

Important: Please keep your laptop turned on and connected to Wi-Fi and power. It can take up to a few hours for the Company Portal to install the required profiles and apps and upgrade Windows Home to Windows Education (where needed). This all occurs in the background, and you can use the computer while it is happening. You may be asked to do a restart of the computer after the upgrades complete.