BYOXLink (Student Laptop Program) 2026/27

TAKE THIS SHEET WITH YOU WHEN PURCHASING A LAPTOP

Hardware Minimum Specifications

The College recommends that all laptops used by students meet the recommended specifications below to enable suitability for curriculum-based activities. College ICT technicians will make every effort to enable connectivity of devices which meet these recommended specifications, assuming there are no technical or other issues outside of their control. An attempt will be made to connect other devices, but parents and students should be aware that connectivity may not be possible if there are technical or other issues.

Year 3 to Year 6		
Windows Devices		
	Recommended (Basic)	**Special (Increased Performance) Also works in Years 7 and 8**
Operating System	Windows 11 only	Windows 11 only
Processor *	Any quad-core processor	Any quad-core processor
Memory	8GB	8GB
Storage Capacity	128GB HDD minimum 256GB HDD preferred	256GB SSD
Battery	Devices should last the school day.	
Wireless Connectivity	Supports 5GHz wireless range.	
Mac Devices		
	Recommended	
Technical Specifications	Any new MacBook (including Neo) meets our College minimum requirements.	
Operating System	Mac OS X 15 (Sequoia)	

Due to the ever changing and progressive nature of technologies, Kawana Waters State College cannot guarantee that component level specifications for Processor Type will be accurate at the time at which you go to purchase your Student device. Please ensure that you utilise this document when making your decisions if you are choosing to buy a device and provide a copy to your chosen computer supplier to ensure that you are getting a suitable product for your students use. Please consult the KWSC IT Manager if you have any questions or concerns relating to this document. The College cannot tell you what to buy or who to buy from, however we can offer general advice to parents.

Devices not supported
• Chromebooks • iPads • Android devices • Co-Pilot+ PC and other ARM processors • 2.4 GHz wireless

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Student subject choices and interests should be considered when deciding what laptop should be purchased. See below for the subject list.

Year 7 to Year 12

Windows Devices

	Recommended	Special
Operating System	Windows 11 only	Windows 11 only
Processor *	Any quad-core processor	A 2.5 GHz eight-core processor or better
Memory	8GB or more	8GB or more
Storage Capacity	256GB SSD	256GB SSD or larger
Graphics	Check subject requirements	2 GB of video memory
Battery	Devices should last the school day.	
Wireless Connectivity	Supports 5GHz wireless range.	

NOTE: For Students wishing to study CAD, Multimedia or some Arts subjects, the required device specifications would be a device with the Special specifications above. Please consult the subject chart for recommended device levels for subjects.

Mac Devices

	Recommended	Special
Technical Specifications	Any new MacBook (including Neo) meets our College minimum requirements.	Any new MacBook (including Neo) meets our College minimum requirements.
Operating System	Mac OS X 15 (Sequoia)	Mac OS X 15 (Sequoia)

Please be aware that some subjects require Windows devices, or a dual boot windows image on their Mac.

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Devices not supported

- Chromebooks
- iPads
- Android devices
- Co-Pilot+ PC and other ARM processors
- 2.4 GHz wireless

Additional Information

Other Accessories and Requirements	Software
• Protective case / hard cover (not mandatory, although highly recommended) • Headphones (especially if in a NAPLAN year) • USB Thumb Drive • Mice – The College does not lend these out and they are not to be taken from the College machines	See the College website for a list of available software: https://kawanawaterssc.eq.edu.au/Facilities/Computersandtechnology/Pages/Software.aspx Free Departmental OneDrive storage space for all students as part of the O365 subscriptions that they get from being enrolled in a Department of Education School.

Faculty Device Specific Requirements for Laptops

Please see below for the minimum device specs per subject. The asterisked boxes indicate the level of device needed for that class.

General Capabilities - All Students and Subjects (not listed below) recommended		Recommended	Special
Subjects that are not listed below are assumed to require recommended specification machines.			
Word processing and presentations	Office Suite. OneNote is also used and essential to the delivery of the curriculum at the College. A license for Office 365 is provided to all enrolled students – you do not need to buy this.	*	
Internet	Inbuilt internet browsers	*	
Basic Adobe use	Basic Adobe Photoshop and similar use.	*	
All students will need to have a machine. If they are not in the below subjects then the General Capabilities category applies. Please ensure that the device is as close to the specifications as possible.			

Film and Television (FTV)		Recommended	Special
High level video editing	Involves editing captions, complex scene transitions, edit sound track, and edit video lightness and contrast etc. Software such as Adobe Premier Pro will be used.		*
High level audio editing	Involves editing wave forms, removing sound artefacts, fade and levels. Software such as Adobe Captivate will be used for this.	*	
High level photo editing	Involves editing selections and elements within photographs, working with layers and levels and editing RAW files. Software such as Adobe Photoshop will be used for this.	*	
High level drawing / painting	Involves on screen drawing of complex shapes, features multiple pen and brush types to create complex pictures. There are several software types that are used for this such as Adobe Illustrator.	*	

Certificate III in Visual Arts	
High level photo editing	Involves editing selections and elements within photographs, working with layers and levels and editing files. Software such as Adobe Photoshop will be used for this.

ICT	Class Require Windows Devices or Mac with windows	Recommended	Special
Making Movies	Adobe Suite; Premier Pro, InDesign and others. Audacity for audio.		*
Coding / Programing	Involves using a programming language to create computer programs or device applications. Adobe Dreamweaver or similar can be used for this.	*	
Website Building	Windows devices are required. Or a dual boot Mac with windows installed. Hosting server from USB will require Windows environment to run. Programming languages will also be run and tested using Windows OS. Adobe Dreamweaver may be used to create this content.	*	
Teacher Note: Devices are vital for this class. It will not be possible to enter this class without them. Windows machines are preferred, or a Windows boot option on a Mac			

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Graphics	Class Require Windows Devices or Mac with windows	Recommended	Special
High level Graphics Renderings	Creating files in AutoCAD, Inventor and Revit for use of 3D modelling and drafting purposes. This requires Windows devices or a Mac running dual boot with a Windows environment to work.		*
Teacher Notes: The software that the students will be using is industry standard. However, it is only available to run on Windows devices. Please ensure that the student has a Windows device, or the Mac can run Windows for use of this software.			

Cert IV in Design		Recommended	Special
High level photo editing	Involves editing selections and elements within photographs, working with layers and levels and editing files. Software such as Adobe Photoshop will be used for this. This is an average resource using software.		*
High level Graphics Renderings	InDesign, Photoshop and illustrator are used. Creating files for use in 3D modelling.		*

Design (Industrial)		Recommended	Special
High level Graphics Renderings	Creating files in AutoCAD, Inventor and Revit for use of 3D modelling and drafting purposes. This requires Windows devices or a Mac running dual boot with a Windows environment to work.		*
Teacher Notes: The software that the students will be using is industry standard. However, it is only available to run on Windows devices. Please ensure that the student has a Windows device, or the Mac can run Windows for use of this software.			

Media Arts in Practice		Recommended	Special
High level video editing	Involves editing captions, complex scene transitions, edit sound track, and edit video lightness and contrast etc. Software such as Adobe Premier Pro will be used.		*
High level audio editing	Involves editing wave forms, removing sound artefacts, fade and levels. Software such as Adobe Captivate will be used for this. Average device requirements to run this software.		*
High level Graphics Renderings	Photoshop and illustrator are used.		*

Fashion and Design		Recommended	Special
Design Software	Creating files for use in 3D modelling.		*

Certificate II in Creative Industries (Media)		Recommended	Special
High level Graphics Renderings	Creating files for use in 3D modelling. InDesign, Photoshop and illustrator are used.		*

Dance		Recommended	Special
High level video editing	Involves editing captions, complex scene transitions, editing soundtracks, and editing video lightness and contrast etc. Software such as Adobe Premier Pro will be used.		*

If you have any questions about the required software for a class, please check with the class teacher.
A list of school supplied and discounted software is available on the Kawana Waters State College website under ‘Student Laptop Program’.
Link: https://kawanawaterssc.eq.edu.au/Facilities/Computersandtechnology/Pages/Computersandtechnology.aspx

For this document and IT related questions, please contact the Kawana Waters State College IT Manager.