Saint Stephen's College

Year 5 BYOL Program 2020

Developing character,
inspiring hope

BYOL (Bring Your Own Laptop) Program

All students in Years 5 to 12 require a laptop computer. This booklet provides important BYOL information for College students in **Year 5 in 2020**.

A Pen-Based Device is required
All students in Year 5 require a computer that has a modern digital pen. The educational and cognitive support for this is significant; over the past few years there has been much research into the way our brains work and the way we think and learn. More information about this is available in the Pen-Based Computing document on the Saint Stephen's College Website (Our College / Technology and Learning).

Windows 10 Operating System
Saint Stephen's College has a Windows 10 laptop environment. **Any new laptop computer must be a 'real' Windows 10 device.** Other environments and computers are **not** appropriate. Unsuitable operating systems include Windows 7, Windows 8, Apple OSX and Chrome OS. Unsuitable devices include iPads, Android Tablets, NetBooks, Chromebooks and Apple Mac laptops. Unsuitable devices or devices running unsuitable operating systems will not be connected to the network and cannot be used at Saint Stephen's College. Devices running BootCamp and other non-Windows operating systems are not suitable.

Avoid 'Hand me down' Computers
Ideally students will begin the BYOL program with a new laptop. It is important that the device your child uses at Saint Stephen's College has long battery life, no damage and the processing power to run all necessary software.

Setting up computers at the start of the year
New students will be guided through the setup of a new laptop when they start at the College. Try to avoid setting up a new laptop at home.

Hardware Specifications
Minimum laptop specifications ensure that each student can use his/her laptop efficiently and effectively to maximise potential learning. When purchasing the new computer, it is important to get one that meets the minimum requirements.

CPU (Processor)	Intel i5 or i7 recommended AMD equivalent acceptable
Hard Drive	128 GB minimum
Memory (RAM)	4 GB minimum 8 GB recommended
Screen	11 inch minimum Touch Screen with battery-powered pen compulsory Touch screens must be detachable or allow 360-degree rotation for flat surface writing
Operating System	Windows 10 on a Windows 10 device (not Apple or Chromebook)
Battery Life	6 hours of continuous use minimum
USB Ports	1 minimum

Warranty and Insurance

When purchasing a new computer, some questions you should be asking the retailer include:

- Does the computer warranty conversation happen with the store I purchased it from, or do I phone a state/national phone number?
- What is the normal turnaround time for repairs?
- Is the computer repaired locally or is it sent away?
- What is and isn't covered?

Many laptops come with a standard 12-month warranty. Some come with a standard two-year warranty. **An extended warranty is recommended,** as a laptop should last three years in a school environment.

A large percentage of hardware problems are due to physical damage, which is not covered by warranty. **Accidental damage protection (ADP) insurance is essential**. This can be added during the purchase of the laptop. College insurance does not cover student computers that are lost or damaged while on campus.

Security

Year 5 and 6 students store their laptops in their classroom. Laptops should not be left unattended before, during or after school.

Software and Updates

Please do not purchase Microsoft Office when purchasing a computer. The College has educational licensing for Microsoft Office and it is free for all students. This download and installation will be done at the College under the supervision of the eLearning Department and classroom teachers. Students are expected to update their device when prompted. Windows 10 OS updates should be done at home as they can take some time to complete and often require a reboot.

Charging Laptops at the College

Students must bring their laptops to school fully charged each day. Charging in the classroom is not something upon which a student should rely and needs to be done safely so as not to cause a tripping hazard or knock the laptop off the desk.

"Loaner" Laptops

These are available for short-terms loans (up to two weeks) if a student has a computer under repair. They are not available if students simply forget to bring their laptops to school. The application form for a 'loaner' laptop is available in the Saint Stephen's College Online D2L Brightspace portal.

Anti-Virus, Spyware and Malware

We recommend the default product that is provided with Windows 10 (Defender) rather than any other free or commercial anti-virus product. **Do not install or purchase anti-virus software.** Malware Bytes is also recommended. It can be downloaded for free (malwarebytes.com). It should be run regularly as it can detect and remove a large range of problems.

Essentials

Laptop case: The hybrid laptop/tablet devices (e.g. Surface Pro) should be encased in custom made protective cases to minimise the chance of damage. These are available from companies such as STM, UAG and Targus.

Laptop bag: Each student should have a padded case for his/her laptop. This reduces the risk of damage when travelling around the College or to and from home.

Mouse: For ease of operation, it is recommended that students use a wired or Bluetooth mouse in class.

Headphones or earbuds: Online learning sessions often involve video tutorials.

Parents are encouraged to show this document to salespeople if buying an over the counter device.

For further information or guidance with regards to purchasing laptops, please contact Matthew Jorgensen, Director of eLearning on (07) 5573 8600 or via elearning@ssc.qld.edu.au. The College has a purchasing portal relationship with JB Hifi Solutions for Education. Visit jbeducation.com.au/byod and enter SSCQLD2020 to choose from a selection of devices that all meet the BYOL specifications criteria. (Delivery time is typically 6 to 8 weeks)