



Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Modern society is information rich, complex and knowledge based. At Woodbridge School we equip our students to be capable, responsible digital citizens who are:

- Creative users of technology
- Collaborative and critical thinkers
- Discerning information seekers
- Effective communicators

Technology must be available to every student to promote effective learning, providing a safe space to allow students to build an understanding of their rights, responsibilities and digital identity and making usage seamless, like taking out a pen or calculator. Students need to be knowledgeable and responsible for their own device and know when to use it, or not, preparing them for the outside world on whatever journey they take after leaving education.

Woodbridge School takes a blended learning approach, allowing students to have a breadth of experience in differing ways to learn, document and record.

All students in Years 4 and above from September 2023 need a device to use in lessons. Any device that meets the minimum specifications can be used and the School will provide opportunities to purchase a bundle if parents wish.

We recommend either checking your home insurance covers the device while at school or purchasing accidental insurance, as well as ensuring it comes in a case or an appropriate bag to give protection.

Specification

	Required	Highly Recommended
Operating System	Current or previous version of Windows, iOS, OSX, Android	Windows 10 or 11
Input	Physical keyboard (wired or Bluetooth) Stylus input*	Native stylus input
Applications	Internet browser Ability to run Office 365 (web versions possible) School provides free Office 365 for students Up-to-date Anti-Virus (Windows & OSX)	-
Screen Size	> 10 inches	-
Weight	-	< 1.5kg
Battery Life	> 8 hours	> 10 hours

Accessories	Headphones Protective bag/sleeve Insurance	Power pack
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*If your child has a recently purchased device without pen support, there are alternative pen input methods that may address this. An example of a device that will bridge this gap is the Wacom One tablet.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

My child has a laptop, do they need a brand new device?

No. As long as the device meets the required specification then the child is welcome to bring their device. We strongly recommend having a touchscreen and stylus though as the benefits of being able to write notes, rather than type, are numerous as well as being able to annotate, diagram and sketch.

Will all lessons be digitally based?

Not necessarily. Digital devices will be one of many tools available for students and teachers to use. It will be up to the teacher and student how activities are carried out, and activities will vary even within a single lesson. Handwriting, speaking and listening, and 'real world' interaction are all valuable skills and will continue to be part of lessons.

Will my child be able to access inappropriate content on their device?

The school networks have filtering systems at the point of egress, so all traffic is inspected, whether on a school device or a personal device. This includes notifying staff of and certain red flag activities. Students will be asked to add a certificate to their device that allows traffic to be looked at. At home the device will act as any other on your home Wi-Fi and the School does not add any intrusive or extra monitoring software.

Will the school provide support?

The Woodbridge IT Services team will offer a 'reasonable effort' service with personal devices. They will help with queries and if more hands-on repair is needed, guide the student or parent on what is needed or where to go, but they are not set up to be a repair service. With devices purchased through the BYOD portal the IT Services team will liaise with the warranty support company and help with any returns or shipping needed.

What happens if the device is damaged or broken?

Devices purchased through the school portal have extended warranty and accidental damage insurance. This has no excess and covers travel abroad up to 90 days. If devices are lost or stolen this is not covered.

How will students charge their device at school?

Charging 730 devices within school is not practical (or possible, safely). The expectation is that devices will be brought to school fully charged and the battery should normally last the whole day. It is possible to purchase battery packs that will partially charge, but these will depend on the laptop.

Do I have to purchase a device through the school?

No. We have purposefully chosen an open model to allow students to use the device they are comfortable with and allow parents flexibility to use schemes or offers they have access to. The portal is just a way for us to help those that are unsure and band together to have some purchasing power.

How will you prevent students being glued to a screen all day?

By the very nature of lessons at Woodbridge School, students will be interacting with each other, the teacher, offline resources, and what the teacher is displaying at the front of the class. Woodbridge School also offers a wide range of co-curricular activities each day of the week, to engage and stimulate students outside the classroom and away from a screen.