2027 – BYOD Specifications – Windows and Mac Devices

	Minimum	Recommended	Graphics	Apple MacBook
Operating System	Windows 11 – Windows Home or Pro required (**Windows S mode and Windows Copilot are NOT supported)**			Mac OS 15 Sequoia or newer
Processor	Intel i3 Processer or better AMD Ryzen 3 or better (Snapdragon CPU not supported)	Intel i5 Processer or better AMD Ryzen 5 or better (Snapdragon CPU not supported)	Intel i7 Processer or better AMD Ryzen 6 or better (Snapdragon CPU not supported)	Apple M1 or newer meet all the hardware requirements of the school
Memory	8GB RAM or more	8GB RAM or more	16GB RAM or more	
Storage Capacity	256GB SSD or higher	512GB SSD or higher	512GB SSD or higher	256GB SSD or higher
Screen Size	12” display or higher (1920x1080 resolution required)	13” display or higher	13” display or higher	
Graphics	1GB minimum		4GB minimum	
Wireless Connectivity	802.1x compatible 5GHz radio capabilities required as we no longer run 2.4GHz			
Battery Life	Please ensure that the battery is large enough to make it through a *full day at school*. Laptops are not to be charged at school. Students must ensure they charge their laptops *every night*.			
Protection/Accidental Damage Plan	Device protection plans (both extended warranty and accidental damage insurance) are **strongly recommended** with all laptops and should be discussed at time of purchase. Accidental damage insurance covers most of the cost to repair a laptop that has been physically damaged e.g. broken screen or water damage. It is **highly recommended** to get accidental damage insurance at time of purchase.			
Important Note	In order to connect your student’s device to our network and install necessary software, students must have administrator access on the device. This means that all restrictions or parental controls must be removed prior to the network connection workshop typically within the first two weeks of Term 1. Once they have completed this workshop, any restrictions and parental controls can be reinstated.			

REQUIRED SOFTWARE

Antivirus

An Antivirus software solution must be installed on student laptops and regularly updated in order to be able to use a device in Education Queensland.

You are not required to purchase antivirus software as Windows 11 comes standard with Microsoft Defender and there are several free options for Mac.

CAD Software

Please note that if students are wanting to do the CAD Classes, they are required to purchase a higher end Windows laptop. The Autodesk software used in these classes is not compatible with Apple Macbooks.

https://www.autodesk.com/support/technical/article/caas/sfdcarticles/sfdcarticles/System-requirements-for-Autodesk-Inventor-2024.html

Microsoft Office

All students can access Microsoft Office 365 software free of charge.

If the device has office pre-installed, students can sign in using their school email and password to licence the product for free. Please do not sign in with a personal email address as this may cause issues with access to their documents and it will ask you to purchase a licence.

If your device does not have the Office preinstalled, or if your software subscription has ended, students can log into Microsoft Online via https://portal.office.com using their school email and password to download and install the Office programs.

Note: the program downloads are quite large and will take some time to download. For those who have no internet connection or poor Internet connectivity, the school can provide the Office 365 suite to students via USB. Students are requested to see the school IT technicians to take advantage of this option.

UNSUPPORTED DEVICES

iPADs and Android Tablets

Tablets can be purchased as supplementary devices, but should not be purchased as a primary BYO device. Devices like the iPad device are not suitable educational devices and **Android devices are not supported**. They provide inferior functionality for typing large documents, running school-based software packages such as Adobe Photoshop, AutoDesk Inventor, Visual Studio etc.

Google Chromebooks

Various manufacturers produce products known as Chromebooks. This is a Google enclosed ecosystem that does not support our Microsoft operating environment. These devices should not be purchased for school use as they are reliant on cloud services to operate which are blocked by Education Queensland filters.

Please be aware, we will not allow Chromebook products onto our network.

Windows S Mode

Windows 11 in S Mode is a more limited, locked-down Windows operating system. On Windows S Mode, you can only install apps from the Store, and you can only browse the web with Microsoft Edge. Because of this it is not compatible with our system as students will be required to install Office and other programs. To switch out of S mode you can follow the instructions from Microsoft, However it would be better to purchase a laptop that is not running S Mode. Coolum State High School is unable to turn off S Mode. If you are unable to do this, you will need to contact a local computer shop for assistance.

Windows Copilot (Snapdragon CPU)

Windows Copilot computers with Snap Dragon CPUs are not compatible with EQ systems. These devices will not be able to be used at school as they will not connect to the school wifi due to the inability to install the necessary security certificates and software.

BYO Device Enrolment

Students are required to enrol their BYO devices into Microsoft Intune to allow them to access the school network and resources. More information can be found here https://education.qld.gov.au/parents-and-carers/school-information/student-ict-device-programs/information-and-user-guides-for-byoxlink

Before you begin, students will need to know their school username and password.

Follow the below instruction videos for your device to complete the enrolment process.

Apple Mac

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=5&v=AIbFfgz4DB8&embeds_referring_euri=https%3A%2F%2Fchancellorsc.eq.edu.au%2F&source_ve_path=Mjg2NjY&feature=emb_logo

Windows 11

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=109&v=II_xqO3Fsto&embeds_referring_euri=https%3A%2F%2Fchancellorsc.eq.edu.au%2F&source_ve_path=Mjg2NjY&feature=emb_logo

Additional information

- Students should only use their devices for educational purposes when connected to the Coolum State High School network.
- Coolum State High School will only provide technical support to enable connectivity to the school network and access to school software. Coolum State High School will not provide software or hardware repairs to a BYO device as it is privately owned. Parents are responsible for any repairs required.
- It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that their laptop is secured when not in use.
- Coolum State High School takes no responsibility for theft, loss, vandalism, damage or unauthorised access to BYO devices.
- BYO devices must not be charged using school power outlets, devices must be brought to school fully charged. It is the responsibility of the student to charge their laptops after school.
- Laptops must be setup before they are brought to school, Coolum State High School is unable to setup laptops out of the box. If you are unable to setup the laptop you will need to contact a local computer shop for assistance.
- When setting up a laptop out of the box please use an offline account or a personal email address, do not use the school email address to setup the laptop.
- It is recommended that students save their schoolwork to their school OneDrive to allow access to their schoolwork in case of issues with their computers. Other cloud storage such as iCloud, Google Drive and personal OneDrive's are blocked on the school network. If students have saved documents to these locations while at home, they will not be able to access them while at school. Please keep this in mind when doing assessments.
- VPN software is not to be used while connected to the school network, this is a violation of the Coolum State High School IT acceptable use policy and may result in network access being revoked.
- Connecting to a mobile hotspot or using an internal 4g or 5g sim card while at school is also a violation of the IT acceptable use policy. Students must be connected to the Coolum State High School network while at school.
- Windows 10 will stop being supported by Microsoft from **14 October 2025**. While it will still work fine it is recommended not to use an unsupported operating system as it will no longer receive adequate security protection and updates. If you have an older device it is recommended to upgrade to Windows 11, this can be done by a computer shop if required. Coolum State High School is unable to perform upgrades on personal devices.