

Year 5 – Year 13 BYOD Program at RNLS 2018 / 2019

BYOD devices (netbooks or laptops) will be used by all students of Y7 –Y13 in 2019, and are strongly advised for Yrs 5 – 6 students. In order to make sure we start the year with all these students having appropriate BYOD device, I am writing this early, so that any purchases could become part of a Christmas gift, and to avoid a mad rush at the start of the year.

All Y5 – Y13 students in 2019 will be enrolled in Microsoft Teams, and, depending on their subject, part, or all of the subject's curriculum will be delivered using the tools embedded in Microsoft Teams, namely a OneNote Class Notebook and a "drop-box" type system for the exchange of Microsoft Office documents between individual students and their subject teacher, with optional comments or grading built in. Besides this, many subjects will use a web browser for Internet based research or for subject related software which runs on the browser. Certain specialist subjects (eg Y10 DTS) will also require students to load specific freeware programs onto their BYOD device.

The BYOD device purchased/loaned/borrowed or already owned needs to be robust, so I suggest you stick to the major proven brands, and that you have guaranteed support in the form of a warranty, so if purchasing, it should be from a large established retailer. In order for the device to be useful for a number of years, the school has put forward some minimum specifications and also some further recommendations as follows:

Minimum Specifications:

- The device must have a minimum screen size of 10 inches (25 cm) as measured across the diagonal of the display.
- The battery of the device must ensure it can be used for a school day without recharging.
- It must have a proper keyboard (not just an on-screen touch keyboard)
- It must be in a case or carry-bag for protection.

Further optional recommended specifications:

- The device should run the Windows operating system, preferably Windows 10 (crucial for anyone continuing in Digital Technologies)
- It should NOT be a Chromebook, iPad or tablet – these do not allow the installation of software such as the free Microsoft Office and OneNote the school provides, but they will run on an Apple Mac.

Hard drive storage space is not crucial. Students will store their work on Microsoft Classroom or Microsoft OneDrive. Speed and robustness are important, so we suggest that the internal hard-drive is an SSD device of 32Gbytes minimum.

We are expecting the price of a suitable new device to be \$350.00 plus. I am reluctant to include a list of suitable devices since there are so many, but some common ones are listed over the page. The device specified on our online stationery order form is such a device, but it always pays to look out for specials which come up regularly. You may also be able to get a free carry-bag, but any free software offered is generally not useful.

If you are unable to purchase/loan/borrow a device it may be possible to borrow one from the school, in which case please contact the [Principal](#) before the end of the year. I am happy to answer any specific questions on this topic sent to me via email

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Suitable BYOD devices examples include:

Lenovo Ideapad S100, S110 11"
Acer 14" Aspire1, Aspire R3 or Aspire Swift laptop
HP Stream 11" Y8H67PA#ABG OR 14" laptop 14-BW027AU
Dell Inspiron 11.6"

There are many more out there that would suit but the price would go up according to speed, storage, size etc. Just make sure it adheres to the specifications – **please refer to 2019 BYOD Specification for another example.**