# Windows

# Choosing devices for school?

Consider modern Windows devices for a wealth of choice to suit all learning styles.

## Parents

Check whether your school has a set of requirements or recommended devices before purchasing a BYOD device. Schools may also have a preferred supplier that offers a range of useful services and warranties, in addition to the device and related accessories.

## Schools

Consider the checklist when building a BYOD strategy and your list of preferred devices. Ensure that you have a wide range to suit all learning styles, age groups and budgets.



## Tablet

Tablets have no physical keyboard and so are best for viewing content, using apps and playing games. Their smaller, lighter form factor means they are often used by very young students. Tablets are also a great ancillary device for older students who want to read content, conduct simple web research and play games on the move.

## Laptop

Laptops or notebooks range from ultra-lightweight devices to powerful rugged devices to suit the toughest of school environments. Powerful laptops can run more demanding educational programs, and are good for students who want to write code, edit videos and create games, as well as manage their schoolwork on a single device.

## Laptop with touch

Laptops with a touch screen as well as keyboard are very versatile, making them ideal for diverse student learning styles and tasks. With plenty of power for running full programs and a touch screen for visualisation and kinaesthetic learning, they are great for multimedia and visual arts students. Some laptops have the option for a pen, increasing the potential of the device further.

## 2-in-1 with touch and pen

2-in-1 devices are laptops where you can remove the keyboard, making them a great investment for school. With the addition of a digital pen, students can take handwritten notes, spontaneously capture and sketch out brainstorm ideas, write mathematically and input character based writing such as Chinese. The flexibility of this form factor gives students the option to study while lying on the floor or even in bed.

## All-in-one

Great for school lab environments or as a shared computer at the back of a classroom, All-in-ones provide large touchscreens, and a slim line modern form factor without the hassle of a bulky CPU tower. Devices range in power from entry-level through to workstation.

## Further references

For schools and teachers
www.microsoft.com.au/forschools

For parents
www.microsoft.com.au/forparents

Microsoft    (intel)

# What kind of devices are suitable for school?
# School device checklist

This is Microsoft's guide generated in consultation with Intel for schools and parents on what to look for when recommending or choosing the right device for learning.

Essential ✔
Recommended ✔

| Your device needs to handle | You need to ask for | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Different school subjects**<br>In a typical day a student might type an English assignment, jot down history notes, figure out maths equations, video a science experiment and record a speech. You'll need a device that lets them work effectively in every subject area. | **1. 10" (minimum) screen, touchscreen and keyboard**<br>• A minimum of a 10" screen – larger for creative or technical work<br>• A touchscreen for browsing and writing class notes<br>• A keyboard for typing assignments | ✔ |
| **Creativity, innovation and composition**<br>Students need apps like "Kids Story Builder" to create a story. But they also want cloud services like Microsoft Office 365 to collaborate and communicate from anywhere. Plus they need practice with the software that's used in the workplace using Microsoft Office. | **2. Runs both apps and programs**<br>• Latest version Windows – apps and settings go with you across all devices<br>• Able to run programs such as Microsoft Office, Adobe Photoshop or AutoCAD | ✔ |
| **Working from different places**<br>Students need to connect to the school wireless network. | **3. Dual-band WiFi access**<br>• Make sure it has dual-band WiFi (2.4Ghz and 5Ghz) to get the fastest access to the school network | ✔ |
| **The school backpack**<br>Keep it light on their back. | **4. Lightweight**<br>• Aim for under 1.6kg<br>• Parents consider carefully what your individual student can carry | ✔ |
| **A typical school day**<br>No one wants to run out of battery half-way through the school day. | **5. 6-hour battery life minimum**<br>• Make sure it is capable of lasting a typical school day<br>• Remember battery life can vary considerably with usage, so aim for higher if you can | ✔ |
| **Connecting to peripherals**<br>Students need to be able to connect their device to printers, projectors, sensors, probes, thermometers and more. Plus you might need to email small files. | **6. USB port**<br>• Needed to connect digital peripherals, such as a microscope, a printer, graphics tablet, a musical keyboard, thermometer, light meter, etc | ✔ |
| **Lots of different software**<br>Make sure the device can run demanding programs for music, design, science and technology classes. | **7. Good performance**<br>• For Primary a minimum of 2GB of RAM and an *Intel® Atom Quad Core or an Intel® Core™ i3 processor or above will keep programs and internet performance on track<br>• For Secondary and beyond look for a minimum of 4GB and an *Intel® Core™ i3, Core™ i5 and Core™ i7 processors | ✔ |
| **Note-taking and brainstorming**<br>Students are more comfortable making notes, sketching, writing maths equations, science formulae and foreign languages with a pen. | **8. Pen**<br>• High fidelity digitised pen with active screen is recommended for note-taking, sketching, writing maths and science equations | ✔ |
| **Rough and tumble**<br>Your child will probably drop the device and may spill things on it, so it needs to be tough and protected. | **9. Durable for everyday school use**<br>• Insist on a protective case<br>• Look for solid state drives (SSD) | ✔ |
| **Lots of files, videos, music and more**<br>Students need plenty of room for applications and their own files. | **10. Storage**<br>• Go for at least 128GB of storage in laptops and 2-in-1s<br>• At least 32GB of storage in tablets is recommended | ✔ |
| **Improving online safety**<br>What family safety software is available/included on the device? Remember, when your child is not at school there may not be protective measures on the WiFi network. | **11. Family safety software**<br>• Windows Defender and SmartScreen<br>• Windows Family Settings | ✔ |