



Hoppers Crossing Secondary College

2026

Netbook Program Handbook



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Rationale

Hoppers Crossing Secondary College is dedicated to ensuring students develop the skills and knowledge to be a successful member of the 21st Century Digital Age. Individual access to personal netbooks will assist in providing the best contemporary education for all students at Hoppers Crossing Secondary College.

Why does the school suggest netbook models?

We believe it is important to have a make and model netbook which has parts support for 3 years and enables more effective teaching and offers efficient technical support. The suggested models are to help guide Parents as to the most appropriate netbook for use in a school environment.

What is BYOD?

Bring Your Own Device, or BYOD, is a technological trend in education and in the corporate world. BYOD recognises that technology and choices about technology are very much personal. BYOD acknowledges technology in education means more than meeting specific curriculum requirements. BYOD is designed to give you, as students and families, freedom to make technology choices that suit you and all your circumstances, within the **device specifications** (see page 7) set out by the College so as to be compatible with our networked systems.

How does the Network Program work?

In 2026 students in Years 7 to 12 are highly encouraged to bring their own netbook to school every day.

We have minimum requirements to the model specifications of the device you may choose to bring or purchase. The device can be purchased through Learning with Technologies (who offer onsite support) or a supplier of your choice.

OR

You can bring a netbook of your own choosing that meets our **Device Specifications**. There is also some software that you must have on the netbook. In most cases there are free options for software.

You are required to sign an **Acceptable User Agreement (AUA)** that outlines how the netbook can be used at school.

Our ICT Technicians are available to answer questions and to give assistance. However, **if you choose to bring your own device, the school does not manage, support, own or warranty the device - it's your device.**

What type of device can we bring?

A range of netbooks in a range of price categories meet the **Device Specifications**. It may be a netbook. It may be a tablet **with a keyboard**. You should carefully consider all your options for purchase and lease/rent-to-buy. Consider also that a good quality device could comfortably last four years.

Some of the **Device Specification** requirements are quite particular. Additionally, it's possible you already own or use a device which meets the Device Specifications, in which case just bring that.

I'm concerned about the costs

The purchase of a device is a major decision and a significant expense. A good quality device may last up to four years and viewed over this timeframe the expense is considerably less. Hoppers Crossing Secondary College is integrating use of devices into many aspects of teaching and learning. Your investment allows the school to maximise learning outcomes for all students.

We have developed a process to operate alongside our BYOD Program. The process outlines a number of strategies the school may take, in consultation with you, to augment access to information and communication technologies. If you are concerned about the costs associated with the BYOD Program you can contact our Netbook Manager, Mrs Karen Knights on 9974 7777.

I'm concerned about device security

Since the inception of our Netbook Programs, device security has rarely been an issue. Please understand that the more expensive the computer is, the more attention it will draw.

If you are concerned the device is going to be broken, lost or stolen, you may wish to consider specific accidental loss and breakage insurance for the device. You may be able to specifically list the item on your home contents insurance, or you can purchase an Accidental Damage Protection plan for your device.

You may also consider using a device locator service. These services include the "Find my mac" and "Find my iPad" service built-in to Apple iOS devices, "Prey" for Windows or "LoJack for Laptops".

Internet access on the device will be filtered at school and students will be prohibited from connecting to other networks while at school.

Actions required by Students and Parents/Guardians

- All students in Years 7 - 12 should bring a computing device to school each day.
- This device must meet the **Device Specifications** (see page 7).
- The personal device must be able to be brought to school on each and every school day and be solely for the students to use throughout the school day.
- Students and Parents are responsible for ensuring the device brought to school meets all the requirements of the **Device Specifications**. A device which does not meet the Specifications will not be permitted access to school networks and services.
- Prior to bringing a personal device for the first time, students and their parents must read and sign the Acceptable Use Agreement which sets out the responsibilities and expectations for use of all electronic devices, including personal devices at Hoppers Crossing Secondary College.
- Students must use their device in accordance with the school's Student Engagement Policy and the Acceptable Use Agreement.
- Students must follow teachers' directions as to appropriate use of their devices in class.
- Each student is absolutely and solely responsible for the care and conduct of his/her own personal device whilst at school or at other school activities, travelling to and from school or to and from other school activities.
- Students must connect their device to the designated wireless data network supplied by Hoppers Crossing Secondary College. Students **must not** connect to any other network, wired, wireless or cellular.

Actions by Hoppers Crossing Secondary College

- Provide an **Acceptable Use Agreement** to list the responsibilities and expectations of each student and their families.
- Ensure a copy of the **Acceptable Use Agreement** is signed by each student and their parents prior to allowing the student's device to be brought to school. A copy of the signed Agreement will be held by the College.
- Publish **Device Specifications** that describes the requirements for devices brought to school pursuant to the BYOD program.
- Provide a wireless network with filtered Internet connection to which students may connect their BYOD program device.
- Provide support to assist students with establishing network connectivity with the BYOD program device.
- Accept no responsibility for loss or damage to, or for maintenance or repair required on a student's own device through any act or omission resulting from the negligence or otherwise of the school, a member of the school staff or of another student.
- Should a student's device fail to meet a requirement of the **Device Specification**, the school will not facilitate the student's access to any network or school services. The school may direct a student to cease bringing a device to school which does not meet all the requirements of the Device Specifications.

Benefits of purchasing a device from Learning With Technologies (LWT)

Buy a netbook from the College Netbook Program (approximate cost \$645 up to \$1600)

These benefits are only available on recommended devices purchased through Learning with Technologies:

- Continuity of service (organising warranty claims and provision of loan devices during repair).
- Single operating platform which is dynamically upgraded on a whole school basis.
- Availability of in-school service and advice.
- Provision of College image which provides programs and software.
- Ease of processing insurance claims with LWT provided insurance.

What do I do if I wish to purchase a netbook now or at any stage from LWT?

1. When you are ready to purchase log onto <http://hopperscrossingssc.orderportal.com.au/> to order your netbook. Families can order through the Hoppers Crossing SC portal.
2. Netbooks will be delivered to the College.
3. The ICT Technicians will configure the netbook and notify the Student to arrange pickup.

What do I do if I purchase a device from another supplier or if I have a device at home that meets the specifications?

1. Take the device to the College ICT Technicians where they will connect the device to the College Internet Network and provide the Student with the login credentials needed to access College ICT resources.
2. Once you have network connectivity, install the software required from the Software kiosk available from the link in COMPASS.

Device Specifications 2026

Hardware Specifications: The device must meet all of the following requirements

Device Type	Windows Laptop	Mac Laptop	Apple iPad	Chromebooks
Operating System	Microsoft Windows 11 or newer	Apple macOS 14 or newer	Apple iOS 17 or newer	Chrome OS
Windows editions must be Home or Pro. We DO NOT support Windows RT, Windows 10, Windows 10 S Mode or Windows 11 S Mode. Android based devices are intentionally omitted from the Hardware Specification due to software compatibility.				
Minimum Screen Size	9.7 inches	9.7 inches	9.7 inches (not iPad mini)	9.7 inches
Maximum Screen Size	15 inches	15 inches	15 inches	15 inches
Storage Capacity	128GB	128GB	32 GB	32 GB
RAM	8GB minimum	8GB minimum	n/a	4 GB minimum
Minimum Battery Life	6 hours	6 hours	6 hours	6 hours
Weight	Please carefully consider the weight of the device. Students will carry the device to and from school and to their classes. We recommend that the weight of the device does not exceed 2kg.			
Recommended Accessories	Protective case/cover	Protective case/cover	Protective case/cover Keyboard	Protective case/cover
Additional Considerations	Accidental loss & breakage Insurance Disk configuration (laptops); Solid State Disk (SSD)	Accidental loss & breakage Insurance	Accidental loss & breakage Insurance An Apple ID account	Accidental loss & breakage Insurance
Anti-Virus/ Security Software	Windows – Windows Defender (comes with Windows 11). Apple – Apple Platform Security (included). See link: https://support.apple.com/en-au/guide/security/welcome/web Chromebooks – not required. See link: https://cbookreviewguide.com/chromebook-virus-and-antivirus-software/			

VCD and Art Students – Years 10 -12

Year 10-12 Students wishing to study Visual Communication and Design and/or Art should consider a device which is capable of running high-end graphics software. These machines may cost more than a baseline model.

Apple iPads

An Apple ID account will be needed to install the following apps that are required to connect the iPad to the schools network. These apps will need to be pre-installed before the iPad is brought in to be connected.

Intune Company Portal - <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/intune-company-portal/id719171358>

Android Devices are NOT supported at the College.

Technical Support

