



Welcome

Welcome to St Clare's College. We are excited to have your daughter join our community. To help her settle in, we have planned a range of induction activities during her first week of secondary school. These activities will help her get familiarised with her device and access the networked systems in the College. We do not require a specific brand of device, but this guide details the required specifications to help you make an informed decision on the most suitable device to purchase for your daughter's learning needs. We encourage you to take this document with you when purchasing or leasing hardware.

Students in Years 7-12 at St Clare's College must bring their own laptops to school. Laptops may be Windows or MacBook. Please note that iPads, tablets, and Chromebooks are not sufficient for College requirements. Students will use their devices in class for a range of tasks, and devices must be capable of carrying out these functions.

Activities the device must support

Take notes, write assignments Produce presentations Produce spreadsheets	Microsoft 365 will be supplied free of charge to students during the first week of school. Other free applications including Open Office, Google Docs, Apple Pages, Apple Numbers
Record audio and video	Webcam and audio input
Player multimedia presentation	Must play multimedia files
Access internet and web-based application Access email Access files on the College servers, and upload files to servers	Browser – Chrome, Firefox, Safari or Edge
Image or video editing	Free software is available for Windows and Mac. Specialist software is also available on College desktops.

Essential device specifications

Wireless connectivity

The device must have a wireless card that supports 5GHz connection. This might be described as *Dual Band Wireless*, *Gigabit Wireless*, *802.11abgn*, *80211agn* or *80211ac*. Please ensure the device of choice meets this requirement or it will not connect to the College network.

Physical keyboard

For ergonomic reasons, note-taking and essay writing require a physical keyboard. This is also a requirement for on-line testing, including NAPLAN.

Battery life

Due to the impracticality of charging in the College environment, all devices must have a battery life of at least six (6) hours of normal school use to get through the day.

Web cam and sound recording capability

The device should allow for the recording of video and audio material.



Suitable sturdy case

To prevent damage to the device, students require a suitable case. Students are to carry devices in this case at all times when moving around the College.

Other specifications

If your daughter has an existing device that meets the above requirements, it should be suitable for the BYOD program. For families purchasing a new device, the additional specifications detailed below will assist in making a decision. In selecting a device, consider the year level your daughter is in, her subject interests and needs, and the length of time you expect the device will last. For example, for a student entering Year 7, a more economical device that lasts two (2) or three (3) years may be a preferable option to a more expensive device that lasts four (4) or five (5) years.

In general, devices with more memory, powerful processors, and larger hard drives tend to perform better. However, lower specifications detailed below may suffice for a Year 7 student.

In order to ensure the expected lifetime of the device is covered, it is recommended that the warranty be valid for this period. Additionally, the College suggests maintaining an insurance or care plan to cover loss, repairs, or accidental damage.

Recommended laptop specifications

Memory	8GB of RAM or better
Processor	Core i5 or Core i7 at minimum <i>Please note that a Celeron or i3 may cause performance issues and is not recommend.</i>
Hard drive	Solid State Devices (SSD) give superior performance over mechanical hard drives (HDD) and are more reliable, although they are more expensive. The recommendation is minimum 256GB or better.
Operating system	Windows 11 (Windows devices) MacOS 13 or better (Macbook) Operating systems changes are current requirements for NAPLAN.
Screen size	At least 11.6" screen, with at least 1280 x 800 or 1366 x 768 resolution. Please note: a bigger screen size may be more comfortable when working for long periods. 13 inches would be a standard size.
Security hardware	Microsoft Security Essentials or other security software (Windows devices) ClamXAV 3 (Macbook)
Updates	Students must maintain all updates on their operating system.

For any questions about the St Clare's College BYOD program, please contact Sarah Casey, Enrolments Officer, via sarah.casey@stcc.act.edu.au or 02 6260 9405.