



Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Information

BYOD devices are now required at Guilford Young College. Wireless access to our intranet and the internet is provided for all student throughout the College. We allocate many online resources through our Learning Management System, called SIMON, as well as Office 365 and other programs. We recommend Windows 10 devices as we run a windows based service and all of our technicians are proficient with this technology. We do not recommend Mac laptops as the College can only provide limited support for these types of devices; however, this device will work within the College environment if you already own one. iPads are not appropriate for use as a primary device at the College. Please note that the College does not take responsibility for student's personal property. **To protect your investment, we recommend a protective case and clear name labelling. Parents are encouraged to add any electronic device to their home and contents insurance policy.**

What type of computer should I have?

A laptop should be relatively light and robust. It needs to be fast enough to run multiple applications at one time and have enough short term memory (RAM) and long term memory (Hard drive or solid state drive) so all work can be saved and accessed with minimum waiting time. It must have wireless access to allow the computer to connect to the College network and a mouse or tracker pad for easy navigation. A keyboard that is not part of the screen is a must as onscreen keyboards take up too much space. A touch screen with a digital stylus is recommended as it allows students to annotate over diagrams and easily take notes. A camera and microphone are also worthwhile additions. Guilford Young College recommends the following:

Recommended:

- 14-inch screen
- Intel Core i5 processor
- 4 Gb RAM
- Separate keyboard
- 8-hour battery life
- Touch screen
- Electronic pen/stylus

Desirable:

- Windows 10 (Not 10s)
- Light weight (Under 1.5kg)
- 6+ Gb RAM
- Protective cover
- Extra power cord (one for home and one for College)

The recommendation is to purchase the best that you can afford without putting your family in financial hardship. Many older laptops might still be appropriate for college use **and a new laptop does not necessarily need to be purchased**. If you need help with selecting a device, please feel free to contact our eLearning Manager on imcguire@gyc.tas.edu.au or through the College. There are a limited number of laptop bursaries available to students commencing Year 11 in 2018. Details of the eligibility criteria are available through the College Business Office.

Software

Guilford Young College provides students with a free subscription to Office365. This gives students the ability to download Microsoft Office up to 5 times to any device that will be used for College work. This subscription is compatible for all platforms. Office 365 also hosts the College's email and allows students to access cloud storage for transfer of files and backup.

Programs the College provide includes:

Outlook

Excel

OneNote

Word

Publisher

Where can I get more information about purchasing a device?

Harvey Norman has arranged a portal for Guilford Young College students which has a selection of appropriate devices. This may give you an idea of the range of devices that may be appropriate for a student attending the College. Please note that **there is no obligation** to purchase from this company.

Visit: <http://www.harveynormanbusiness.com.au/gyc-byod>

There are also several other reputable computer retailers in Hobart who provide excellent service and assistance.

Frequently asked questions:

Does my child have to have a laptop at Guilford Young College?

Yes.

Do I need to buy a computer for my son/daughter to come to GYC?

No, you do not have to buy a computer but students will need a laptop for their time at the College. Many students have access to an older model computer which would be appropriate for their time at GYC. Reconditioned and reimaged computers are also excellent options.

I have an old laptop at home can my child use this at the College?

This is a possibility. Contact Ineke McGuire (imcguire@gyc.tas.edu.au) and she can arrange for our technical team to check the compatibility with our network.

My child used an iPad at their last school. Can they keep using this at GYC?

iPads are not appropriate BYOD devices for GYC. An iPad is not completely compatible with our network. It is fine for researching on the internet (secondary device) but not as a primary BYOD device.

What sort of computer should I buy?

There is not a correct answer for that, however, buy the best you can afford without putting your family in financial hardship. We can help you with advice if you are unsure of specifics.

Windows, Mac, or Chrome?

The College prefers students to have Windows 10 based computers as they are more compatible with our network. However, if your child already has a MacBook or similar device it should be able to perform most tasks required in class and at home. For any courses requiring specialised software, a number of desktops are available for students use. Chromebooks will not work on our system.

The computer cost me \$600 and now they want me to buy \$500 worth of software. What should I buy?

Nothing. All you need is an operating system which comes with your computer. Guilford Young College provides all the software your child will need.

Do we need the internet at home for my child?

It is not essential to have access to the internet at home but it is recommended. Libraries and many public areas have free internet these days. The College also encourages access before and after school for research.

Money is tight, I cannot afford a laptop at the moment. What do I do?

Many times students may have access to an older laptop that is perfectly serviceable. If you need financial assistance, please contact the College Business Office.

What technical support do you offer my child at GYC?

There is a dedicated ICT support staff member located at each campus. They can help with minor software, connectivity and access issues. ICT staff are not trained in the use of MacBook's so we can only offer limited support on this platform. ICT staff cannot assist with hardware issues.

I do not know anything about computers. Where can I get some help?

GYC has ICT staff and an eLearning Manager who are able to support you if you have any questions. Contact one of them at the college by phone or email Ineke McGuire at: imcguire@gyc.tas.edu.au

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