

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) 2027



Year 9–13 students are strongly encouraged to bring a fully charged laptop to school each day. Devices are used as part of our hybrid learning approach, which combines traditional learning and teaching with digital technologies that support and enhance learning.

At Avonside Girls' High School, we aim to grow capable digital creators through our learning programmes. Having a student-owned device that goes home each day supports anywhere, anytime learning. Students use Microsoft Office 365, which allows them to save work securely to the cloud and access it from home or any internet-connected device. This supports collaboration between students and provides teachers with additional ways to give feedback.

Using a laptop also helps students communicate, create, share learning, and develop the digital skills they will need for the future, including preparation for NCEA digital examinations.

AGHS Recommended devices for BYOD 2027

There are many appropriate devices, and the school does not require a particular device. Instead, we have minimum specifications. Please note **Chromebooks and Everis laptops do not meet our specs.**

Our minimum specs (listed below) can be taken to local retailers like PB Tech, Cyclone, Noel Leeming or Harvey Norman etc. to assist with correct device choice. Parents can buy devices from any retailer, but please consider the after sales service and arrangements for when a device needs repair when choosing.

Minimum specification for devices:

- Battery life: 6 - 8 hours. Battery life will lessen over time.
- Keyboard
- Screen size of 13 inches is optimal
- Light enough to be carried around during the day
- Protective case
- 5GHz Wireless capability
- USB Drive
- Built in camera and sound recording
- RAM – 8GB to 16GB
- 256GB SSD drive at least to ensure sufficient space for software. Hard Drive should be at least 320GB.
- Microsoft Office license – **provided free by AGHS** while at school
- Audio/HDMI output
- Insurance (AGHS is not responsible for damage or loss of the device)

16GB RAM/256GB SSD is recommended for:

- Performance: 16GB RAM allows for better multitasking (e.g., many browser tabs, Microsoft Teams, and other apps open simultaneously).
- Longevity: While 8GB is sufficient for juniors, 16GB ensures the device remains usable for senior school (Years 11-13).
- Storage: 256GB SSD is the standard recommendation to hold all school apps, updates, and files.

Along with these we strongly recommend:

- OS for Windows – Windows 11 and macOS Sonoma or later for Macs
- Virus protection – e.g. Microsoft Security Essentials, Windows Defender etc.
- Malware protection, e.g. Malware Bytes etc.
- Bluetooth capability

Retailer BYOD Portals:

- Cyclone Computers <https://www.byod.cyclone.co.nz/collections/universal-shop> Select from a range of devices using our minimum specs in the box above to make sure the device meets our requirements.
- PB Tech <https://www.pbtech.co.nz/education/byod> Select "Avonside Girls' High School" to see range.

Do I have to purchase a new device?

No, if you have a device already that meets our minimum specs then it will be fine – see the minimum specifications above. **Note that Chromebooks and Everis laptops do not meet our requirements.**

What about families who are unable to access a personal device?

Loan devices are available for term-long loan from our Library. These are issued on a case-by-case basis.

We also have a limited number of daily loans available. Students can pick these up before school or at interval and return them at the end of the school day. These are issued on a first in, first served basis.

Any queries, please direct them to: mdl@avonside.school.nz