

What is Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Bring Your Own Device refers to students bringing a **personally owned** laptop to school for the purpose of learning.

All year 7 to 12 students at Rowville Secondary College will be required to bring a device to school.

- We **recommend** that Year 7 to 12 students bring a Microsoft Windows based or Apple macOS based laptop that is equal or above the **minimum specification as set out below**.

Minimum Specifications

Laptop

- Operating System - Windows 10 version 1903 or later, Windows 11 (Home, Pro, or Education editions. No Windows 'S' or 'X')
- Processor – Intel Celeron or i3
- Screen Size – 11' minimum
- RAM – 4GB of RAM
- Hard Drive – 128GB Solid State Drive

Apple MacBook

- Operating System – macOS Big Sur or later
- Processor – Intel Core i3
- Screen Size – 13' minimum
- RAM – 4GB of RAM
- Hard Drive – 128GB Solid State Drive

Recommended Specifications

Laptop

- Operating System - Windows 10 version 1903 or later, Windows 11 (Home, Pro, or Education editions. No Windows 'S' or 'X')
- Processor – Intel Core i5 or AMD Ryzen 5 or 7
- Screen Size – 14' – 15'
- RAM – 8GB of RAM
- Hard Drive – 256GB Solid State Drive

Apple MacBook

- Operating System – macOS Big Sur or later
- Processor – Intel Core i5 or Apple M1 Chip
- Screen Size – 13' – 15'
- RAM – 8GB of RAM
- Hard Drive – 256GB Solid State Drive

Why BYOD at RSC?

Today's students are IT savvy children who have never known life without a computer or the Internet. They study, work, write and interact with each other in ways different from the previous generation.

At the college we provide cutting edge technology that supports fast and reliable access to technically sophisticated school resources. The recent deployment of latest technologies in Wi-Fi networking, increased coverage and load balancing will ensure an overall improved user experience across both the East and West Campuses.

New Internet services at both campuses will provide greater bandwidth performance to allow instant access to the latest web content and services. In addition, the establishment of filtering services ensure only suitable content is made available to students. The latest Firewall, User Identifications, Download Caching, Load Balancing and Reporting all assist in ensuring the safety of student data and content delivery.

Advantages to BYOD

- Personal devices assist with individualizing the learning in our classrooms.
- Technology enables rich, authentic learning tasks that are otherwise impossible.
- Technology breaks down classroom walls and takes learning anywhere across the world.
- Through the use of different apps/software, students are able to choose the type of product they construct to demonstrate their meaning.
- The abundance of apps/software and access to information on any topic allows students to pursue areas they are interested in learning about.
- Notes can be kept in one spot, commented on and available anywhere.
- Devices are increasingly light and portable and easily carried in a bag from class to class.
- Heavy schoolbooks may be substantially replaced by e-books.
- Documents and tasks can be uploaded and downloaded by students and teachers, both at school and at home.
- Texts and documents can be annotated and commented on by multiple students and teachers.
- The device will aid students in organising their time and studies by providing ready access to email, homework, and calendars.
- Personally owned devices are taken much better care of by students, improving user experience and promoting individual responsibility.

What changes will there be that support BYOD?

- The booklist will have both traditional textbooks and e-books options for students. Details on how to purchase e-books will be distributed to families early in term 4.
- All students will have access to many school / DET provided software which they are allowed to install on their personal devices. (e.g. Microsoft365)
- All students will have access to High-Speed Broadband Access whilst at school
- A Filtering Service that meets DET Standards will assist with safe and acceptable internet use whilst at school.

Through dedicated project teams and Department of Education and Training (DET) support and services, Rowville Secondary College has invested significant time and money in the development of a BYOD program. This investment will continue to provide ongoing support to teachers; students and parents by ensuring structures are in place to improve student learning outcomes.

Technical Components

Wireless (WiFi) Network	Aruba 802.11AC
Dedicated Internet Service	1000mbps internet connection
Content Filtering Service	CyberHound Filtering for internet delivery and firewall
Device Purchasing Portal	Online JB HiFi device purchasing portal

What do parents/guardians need to prepare for 2023?

- Ensure your child has a suitable device that meets the required minimum specifications (please refer BYOD section of the schools' web site).
- Parents are strongly encouraged to consider insurance and warranty cover for BYODs, as they are not covered by the school. Devices purchased through the Purchase Portal will have warranty and insurance cover options.
- Ensure your child has a suitable protective case and/or carry bag for their device. Devices purchased through the Purchase Portal will have protective case and/or carry bag options.
- Purchase either E-books or textbooks. Details about how and where to do this will be on our website.

- Assist your child to know and understand the RSC Learning Protocols and how to be a safe, responsible, and ethical user.

We recognise that the purchase of a device is a major decision and a significant expense. A good quality device may last a number of years and viewed over the long term, the total expenses of school are considerably less. The purpose of identifying minimum specification is to allow families to utilise a suitable device that they already own. The Purchase Portal that will be available from the school website has extensively negotiated competitively priced devices at a range of price points. The devices available via Purchase Portal will enable you to select a suitable device and the warranty options will provide an additional layer of protection.

RSC has developed an Equity Policy designed to assist families experiencing financial difficulties. Please contact the College for further details.

Please see the RSC website www.rowvillesc.vic.edu.au for further information, including Frequently Asked Questions.