

Laptops

The Department of Education has mandated that schools can no longer sell laptops to families. In the past our College has allowed parents to purchase laptops through our school with payment plans, but this option can no longer be offered.

What are my options?

To ensure the best possible access to information, communication technology and to meet the expectation that every student will have access to a laptop, Ararat College has made the following 3 options available to parents. Please note that if you indicate you would like to purchase or bring your own device, but change your mind, you can still access the library laptop option at any time.

1. Purchase

- Parents may purchase a laptop from our preferred supplier 'Learning With Technologies'.
- The 3 laptops offered meet all the requirements that students will need for school use including options for insurance, warranty (return to base or onsite repairs at school) and accessories.
- Laptop delivery is guaranteed for mid January 2022.
- Laptops purchased through this site are sent directly to the school ready for students to start the school year.

2. Borrow and return a laptop from the library each day.

- The student receives the same computer each day which they collect from the library before school and return to the library after school between 3:30 and 3:45. This may not be a new computer.
- Installation of all appropriate software. No other software or music allowed.
- Access to school IT support staff for routine maintenance and problem solving
- Warranty is arranged by the school
- Insurance for accidental breakage organised by school (Family pays any excess)

3. Bring your own laptop (BYOD).

Please contact the IT Manager prior to making this choice

Students bring their own laptop to school

Laptops must be:

- Minimum Screen Size of 13.3"
- Core I3 Gen 10 Processor
- 8GB RAM
- Operating System of Windows Professional 10 64Bit
- 256GB SSD Hard drive
- 7 Hour Battery
- 1 RJ45 Ethernet Port
- 802.11a/b/g/n wireless LAN
- Be less than 4 years old

In addition to the above please note that:

- IT staff can offer support but cannot help with hardware or virus issues.
- Repairs and warranty issues will need to be arranged and completed by the family (**3 year onsite is required**)
- Laptops **are required** to be insured by the family.
- **Once a BYOD device no longer fills the required specifications or is more than 4 years old it will no longer be able to be used.**
- **Please note: Apple devices CANNOT be used as these are not supported by our network technology.**

Do I need to update my laptop?

Bridging the Digital Divide – library laptops gifted 2020

At the start of this year many families participated in the Bridging the Digital Divide Program allowing students to retain laptops loaned to them during remote and flexible learning.

Families will need to contact the school to check if these laptops still meet the requirements to be a school device. If the laptop no longer meets the standards required, families will need to choose one of the 3 options for the 2022 school year.

Do I need to purchase a new Laptop?

Families who have purchased laptops in the past will need to check to see if their device needs updating.

Generally laptops will have a life span of 3 to 4 years maximum, however sometimes they may need to be replaced before this due to damage or other technical issues making repair unviable. In these instances parents are welcome to purchase a new device or take up the library loan or BYOD option instead.

| School Year 2022 | |
|------------------|--|
| Year 8 | Laptop purchased 2021 - will be valid to end Year 10 |
| Year 9 | Laptop purchased 2020 - will be valid to end Year 10 |
| Year 10 | Laptop purchased 2019 - will be valid to end Year 10 Consider purchasing new laptop or other option as device is already 3 years old. Current laptop will no longer be covered with a warranty or insurance. Any repairs required will be the responsibility of the parent. |
| Year 11 | Laptop purchased 2021 - will be valid to end Year 12 |
| Year 12 | Laptop purchased 2020 - will be valid to end Year 12 |

How do I purchase a new Laptop?

A designated online portal has been set up 'Learning With Technologies' for Ararat College families to order laptops. Go to:

- Go to Ararat College Website link 'Back to School 2022' and click order laptop button.
- Go to the buy now tab and the three computers that are available will be displayed.
- Select the type of warranty and insurance you would like.
- Select any optional extras you would like to purchase.
- Once ordered your laptop will be delivered to Ararat College and all necessary software will be installed.
- Students collect their device from the college at the start of the school year.
- Orders need to be made by **TUESDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2021**

I need help with my decision.

If any families need assistance or require further information regarding these options, please do not hesitate to contact our I.T. Manager Kevin Bowles on 5352 4177.