



**FIRBANK
GRAMMAR**

VINCIT QUI SE VINCIT
- one conquers, who conquers oneself

Dear Firbank families,

Embracing the future means embracing technology, and that's precisely what we're doing here at our school. To give our students a unique, personal learning experience, Firbank Grammar currently offers a BYODD (Bring Your Own Designated Device) program from Year 4 to Year 12.

However, as Firbank Curriculum, learning and security requirements increase through the year levels, the volume of content created during Years 7–12 in the Senior School is substantially greater than that of Junior School. Consequently, the BYODD program is no longer able to satisfy all the needs of our Senior School students.

To meet these needs, **Firbank is transitioning to a school-managed device model beginning with students in Year 7 in 2024.** Over the course of three years, the HP EliteBook x360 830 G10 device, will be their trusted academic companions, which will come with software suitable for the course they are studying. During the next few years, we will gradually transition to a school-managed laptop program for students in Years 8 through to 12.

For our Junior School students in Years 4 to 6 - The iPad continues to be the preferred learning and teaching device for this group due to its mobility, weight, and durability. To ensure that teaching and learning are supported effectively, we carefully select the recommended applications. For students in Junior Schools, iPad tablets provide a more suitable option due to their lighter weight and portability, which also aligns with our pre-existing managed iPad program for years ELC to 3.

Based on our accumulated experience and understanding of device usage within Firbank, we have curated a "Minimum Device Specifications" list to guide optimal device selection. It is important for our Senior School students to have a full desktop experience, and laptops are identified as the most effective tool in this regard.

Based on our experience, our teaching methods, and our ICT ecosystem, the specifications presented below have been recommended as minimum requirements for efficient performance.

For families who prefer a specific device recommendation, the final section contains information and links for purchasing devices which align with these specifications, from partner vendors.

**SENIOR SCHOOL
BRIGHTON**

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**JUNIOR SCHOOL
BRIGHTON**

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Victoria 3186 Australia

Phone 03 9591 5141
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**JUNIOR SCHOOL
SANDRINGHAM**

45 Royal Avenue Sandringham
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Minimum Device Specifications

YEARS 8 –12 [SENIOR SCHOOL]

RECOMMENDED SPECIFICATION	
Device Type:	Laptop
Screen Size:	Minimum 13 Inch
Operating System:	Microsoft Windows 11 Pro or above (Firbank will onboard the device into the Firbank's devices management program, Microsoft Intune for partial management)
Processor:	Core i5 or higher
Memory:	16GB preferably
Storage:	256GB* SSD (Solid State Disk)
Wireless:	802.11ac minimum
Battery Life:	Minimum 6–8 hours
Other Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protective case ▪ Carry bag ▪ Accidental Damage Protection (Firbank highly recommend this option).
Backup Storage:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students are provided with 1TB backup space in MS OneDrive via their Microsoft 365 licence and are expected to utilise this for the backup of their schoolwork
Applications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A list of school-recommended apps will be provided at the start of school year.

** Students will be responsible for maintaining sufficient storage space on their devices, to allow for school-related activities and work.*

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Minimum Device Specifications

YEARS 4 – 6 [JUNIOR SCHOOL]

RECOMMENDED SPECIFICATION	
Device Type:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ iPad
Screen Size:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 10.2-inch Retina Display
Operating System:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must be capable of being updated to the current iOS while being used as a Firbank BYODD device.
Storage:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 256GB*
Web Browsers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Microsoft Edge ▪ Google Chrome ▪ Safari
Other requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Smart Keyboard ▪ Protective case
Optional:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Apple Pencil ▪ Apple Care+ (Firbank highly recommend this option).
Backup Storage:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Students are provided with 1TB backup space in Microsoft OneDrive via their Microsoft 365 licence and are expected to utilise this for the backup of their schoolwork
Applications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A list of school-recommended apps will be provided at the start of school year.

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FIRBANK ONLINE DEVICE PORTAL

To assist families with students **years 4 to 6, and year 8 to 12** who do not currently own a device, we have developed an online portal with JB Hi-Fi that provides specific recommendations for devices that align with our device requirements.

When packaged with insurance, these devices are offered at a competitive education price, in conjunction with flexible payment options.

There is no obligation to use this portal: families may choose to purchase devices elsewhere (or may already own a device that meets the above criteria).

You can access the JB Hi-Fi BYODD portal to view the recommended devices and receive special pricing by clicking the link below.

Website: Home JB Hi-Fi Solutions BYODD (www.jbeducation.com.au)
School Code: Firbank2024

The JB-Hifi portal offers customers the choice to enhance their purchase with additional accidental damage protection and insurance for their devices. While this is an optional service incurring an extra cost, we strongly encourage families to consider investing in this valuable coverage.

In further support of this implementation, we will be providing parents with the following at the start of the 2024 school year:

- **Acceptable Use Agreement** for school technology use (in the school Diary) and a sample Family User Agreement, to assist you in creating some structure around the use of this technology in your home. Parents and/or legal guardians will be required to sign an additional agreement for Year 7 students for school managed devices program.
- **Parent Workshops** to assist you with configuring devices and to gain insights into the application of this technology to the Firbank Curriculum
- A list of school-recommended apps

We look forward to working with you to effectively integrate the use of this engaging technology with your child's Firbank Learning Journey.

If you have any further questions, please email parenthelpdesk@firbank.vic.edu.au

Kind regards,

Firbank Grammar School

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