



Dear Firbank families,

To allow for a level of flexibility around the device preferences of individual students, Firbank Year 4 to Year 12 students utilise the BYODD (**Bring Your Own Designated Device**) model to support their Firbank Learning Journey.

The iPad is best suited to the needs of Junior School students in Years 4 to 6 – the mobility, weight, durability and flexibility of iPads continue to make them the preferred learning device for this age group. The recommended applications are carefully chosen to best support teaching and learning.

However, Firbank Curriculum and learning requirements increase and vary significantly as our students progress through the year levels. The volume of content created and processed during Years 7–12 in the Senior School is substantially greater than that of Junior School.

In addition, teacher-to-student feedback, workflow and the delivery and availability of blended learning content are significantly more efficient when using a device with a full desktop operating system.

With this in mind, we recommend a more appropriate level of technology in the Senior School. Due to this, we require that our Senior School students utilise a laptop device, as these provide the necessary mix of power, portability and flexibility to support their studies across Years 7–12.

The following specifications for Junior School and Senior School student devices seek to balance flexibility of choice while ensuring that the device chosen will continue to be fit for purpose as long as is practicable.

In current consumer devices, this represents a life expectancy of approximately three years.

To do this, we provide only a general set of minimal requirements for items such as device memory, processor and storage, which can be found in the “Minimum Device Specifications” for Senior and Junior school devices, in the next sections.

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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**JUNIOR SCHOOL
SANDRINGHAM**

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Victoria 3191 Australia
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www.firbank.vic.edu.au



**FIRBANK
GRAMMAR**

VINCIT QUI SE VINCIT
- one conquers, who conquers oneself

Minimum Device Specifications

YEARS 7–12 [SENIOR SCHOOL]

RECOMMENDED SPECIFICATION	
Device Type:	▪ Laptop
Screen Size:	▪ Minimum 13 Inch
Operating System:	▪ Microsoft Windows 10 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:	▪ Protective case ▪ Carry bag
Backup Storage:	▪ 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:	▪ Firbank will provide software relevant to the subject being undertaken

* Students will be responsible for maintaining sufficient storage space on their personal 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 ▪ Accidental loss and breakage insurance
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 2022 school year.

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FIRBANK ONLINE DEVICE PORTAL

To assist families 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 \(jbeducation.com.au\)](https://www.jbeducation.com.au)

School Code: **Firbank2023**

In further support of this implementation, we will be providing parents with the following at the start of the 2022 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
- **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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