EVERTON PARK STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Laptop Selection Guide
2027-2028

Unsupported Devices.
Android Tablets, Chromebooks, Googlebooks, and iPads are not supported.

	Windows Minimum Requirements	Mac Minimum Requirements
Processor (CPU)	Intel i3 (10th Gen or newer), Intel Core 3, Ryzen 3 (4000 series or newer), Snapdragon X	MacBooks require: M2/M3/M4/M5/M6 MacBook Neo's are also supported
Memory (RAM)	8GB+	8GB+
Storage	256GB+	256GB+
Screen Size	13"+	13"+
Wi-Fi Capability	5Ghz	5Ghz
Operating System	Windows 11	Mac OS 13 and later currently supported

Technology Subjects and Increased Device Requirements
Students in Years 9 and 10 studying Design Technology or Industrial Technology may need to run specialised design software that typically requires higher-performing hardware. A laptop with 16GB RAM or more, an Intel Core i5 (10th Generation or newer), Intel Core 5, AMD Ryzen 5, or an equivalent or higher-performing processor, and suitable graphics capability is recommended to ensure the software runs efficiently and supports student learning.

Antivirus
It is unnecessary to pay for Antivirus products such Avast Antivirus, McAfee Antivirus, Norton Antivirus, Trend Micro Antivirus, etc., as they often cause problems. Windows devices can use Windows Security (built in free antivirus) and Apple Mac devices already have security features built in.

Battery Life
When purchasing a laptop, it is recommended to get a device with at least 8 hours of battery life, as this will reduce with usage and age and a device with at least 6 hours will be needed.

Insurance
Purchasing insurance is a personal choice. When buying your laptop, explore options for accidental damage protection that covers use both on and off campus. Fire, theft, and Acts of God are typically not included, so we recommend adding coverage through your home or personal insurance. You may purchase insurance from your computer vendor or another provider. All claims must be handled directly with the insurer.

Repairs and Maintenance
Check the warranty period and any Accidental Damage options available at purchase. Maintenance of the device, operating system, software, and apps purchased by the Student/Parent is their responsibility.

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Microsoft Office
Please note Microsoft Office 365 is supplied FREE and can be downloaded with a student's EPSHS logon. Visit **https://portal.office.com/account** and click "Install Office".

Frequently Asked Questions

What if I already own a laptop, do I need to purchase a new one?
Students may bring an existing laptop if it meets requirements. Many laptop devices will meet the basic needs for digital learning at EPSHS. The school's best advice to ensure that effective learning occurs is that the laptop meets the listed minimum device specifications.

What if I've already purchased an unsupported device?
Education Queensland schools do not support Google products. Android tablets, Chromebooks, and Googlebooks will not operate effectively on the Education Queensland network. iPads can be connected to the school network but have limited educational suitability. The school's advice to ensure that effective learning occurs is that the device meets the listed minimum device specifications.

Will my child be disadvantaged if I only get a device with minimum specifications?
A device that meets minimum specifications will allow students to perform learning activities and tasks set at EPSHS.

Are there any reasons to buy a higher performance device?
Absolutely. While a device meeting the minimum specifications will support the learning requirements at EPSHS, choosing a higher-performance device can offer additional benefits. These may include greater responsiveness when multitasking, more flexibility to explore creative applications, personal interests and other activities beyond the classroom. A higher-specification device may also provide greater capacity to accommodate evolving software requirements and remain useful for longer as technology advances.

Does my child need to be an administrator on their device?
To perform actions such as joining the Wi-Fi network automatically, initially connecting to the school printers, and installing educational software, your child typically needs to be an administrator on their device at the time of those actions.

How can I protect the device against hard-knocks and water damage?
A strong carry case is a great way to protect your device from accidental damage like drops. Use a bag or case designed to hold a laptop with adequate padding, ideally also waterproof.

What about ARM/Snapdragon/Qualcomm Windows laptops?
Windows on ARM laptops use ARM processors rather than traditional Intel or AMD x64 processors. These models typically feature Qualcomm Snapdragon or RTX Spark processors. They have recently been supported by the Department of Education. As the technology is relatively new, edge cases regarding compatibility issues may arise. For example, a student may find their laptop cannot connect to an older USB microscope used in science classes. In situations like these accommodations can be made. For example, they may need to work with another student to complete the activity or loan a laptop for the day from the library.

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