



School Ready



# Is your device school ready? Parent Checklist

Refer to this checklist to find the perfect device for School

Essential

Recommended

## Your device needs to handle

### Different school subjects

In a typical day a student might type an English assignment, jot down history notes, figure out maths equations, video a science experiment and record a speech. You'll need a device that lets them work effectively in every subject area.

### Creativity, innovation and composition

Students need apps like "Kids Story Builder" to create a story. But they also want cloud services like Microsoft Office 365 to collaborate and communicate from anywhere. Plus they need practice with the software that's used in the workplace using Microsoft Office.

### Working from different places

Students need to connect to the school wireless network.

### The school backpack

Keep it light on their back.

### 6-hour days

No one wants to run out of battery half-way through the school day.

### Connecting to peripherals

Students need to be able to connect their device to printers, projectors, sensors, probes, thermometers and more. Plus you might need to email small files.

### Lots of different software

Make sure the device can run demanding programs for music, design, science and technology classes.

### Note-taking and brainstorming

Students are more comfortable making notes, sketching, writing maths equations, science formulae and foreign languages with a pen.

### Rough and tumble

Your child will probably drop the device and may spill things on it, so it needs to be tough and protected.

### Lots of files, videos, music and more

Students need plenty of room for applications and their own files.

### Safely browsing multiple sites

What family safety software is available/included on the device? Remember, when your child is not at school there may not be protective measures on the WiFi network.

## You need to ask for

### 1. 10" screen or larger (preferably touch), and keyboard

- A minimum of a 10" screen — larger for creative or technical work
- A touchscreen for browsing is preferable
- A keyboard for typing assignments

### 2. Runs both apps and programs

- Latest version Windows – apps and settings go with you across all devices
- Able to run programs such as Microsoft Office, Adobe Photoshop or AutoCAD

### 3. Dual-Band WiFi access

- Make sure it has dual-band WiFi (2.4Ghz and 5Ghz) to get the fastest access to the school network

### 4. Lightweight

- Aim for under 1.6kg
- Parents consider carefully what your individual student can carry

### 5. Battery life to last a school day

- Standard school day is 6 hours
- Remember battery life can vary considerably with usage, so aim for higher if you can

### 6. USB port

- Needed to connect digital peripherals, such as a microscope, a printer, graphics tablet, a musical keyboard, thermometer, light meter, etc

### 7. Good performance

- For tablets and 2-in-1s a minimum of 2GB of RAM and an Intel® Atom Quad Core or Intel® Core M processor or above will help keep battery life and internet performance on track
- For laptops and 2-in-1s and beyond look for a minimum of 4GB of RAM and an Intel® Core™ M, Core™ i3, Core i5 and Core™ i7 processors

### 8. Pen

- High fidelity digitised pen with active screen is recommended for note-taking, sketching, writing maths and science equations

### 9. Durable for everyday school use

- Insist on a protective case
- Look for solid state drives (SSD)

### 10. Storage

- Go for at least 128GB of storage in laptops and 2-in-1s
- At least 32GB of storage in tablets is recommended

### 11. Family safety software

- Windows Defender and SmartScreen
- Windows Family Settings

**Important to note:** Microsoft and Intel advise that purchasers always check that the detailed specification of a particular model is as expected and that it meets your desired criteria. Features and functions will vary within a manufacturer's range. The Devices for School Parent Checklist has been created by Microsoft and Intel as a guide only. It is based on our experience of working with K-12 schools in Australia and has been built with assistance from device manufacturers. Please remember that device performance and battery life will vary by usage and user, and we recommend you seek advice from a specialist supplier.

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