

Upper School laptop recommendations

Given our teachers in-class use of a web-based student learning system called Schoology, the increased practice of giving students work time during class, as well as the possibility of the need for a student to learn remotely, we are asking all families to ensure their student has access to a laptop computer with a camera for video conferencing that they can bring to school each day and reliable internet at home.

Tablets, iPads and phones will not meet these criteria because they cannot always run the applications our faculty may ask students to complete. Chromebooks are also not recommended as there are numerous challenges with zoom connections and difficulties managing both a personal and school google account on these devices.

We recommend a laptop that you are comfortable with your student bringing back and forth to school each day. It should have a built-in camera and have an operating system that the student is comfortable navigating. ***It's important that students have a set of personal headphones each day as well.***

Suggestions

Apple laptops will work fine, but often require additional cabling if students want to connect to HDMI inputs digital projectors at school to present content they have created.

The following are low cost ideas for Windows 10 or Windows 11 devices. You can use these as examples for minimum specifications.

https://smile.amazon.com/gp/product/B09HVC79PC/ref=ox_sc_act_title_1?smid=ATVPDKIKX0DER&psc=1

https://smile.amazon.com/gp/product/B09BMRN3SJ/ref=ox_sc_act_title_1?smid=AM0VWZ1WMK39K&psc=1

<https://www.costco.com/hp-14%22-laptop---11th-gen-intel-core-i3-1125g4---1080p-windows-11.product.100793915.html>

You might also consider purchasing a refurbished machine from a reputable source if cost is an issue.

Windows 10 in S mode is *not recommended*, but you can switch S mode off after it's purchased.

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4456067/windows-10-switch-out-of-s-mode>

The school is not able to provide temporary loaner laptops to upper school families in the event of short duration school closures. If you are concerned about your ability to provide your child with a laptop, please contact Nicole Tervalon (nicole.tervalon@mountmadonnaschool.org) for assistance.