



FAQ's

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic College – BYODD – (Bring your own Designated Device)

What does BYODD stand for?

Bring Your Own Designated Device (BYODD) refers to the school based approach to students bringing their own laptop to school as an essential education tool. Designated refers to the fact that the school determines the brand and model of laptop which students are required to use at school.

Why has OLMC moved to a BYODD model?

In the past the College has purchased the student devices with the support of Sydney Catholic Schools and parents have leased them back as part of the school fee structure. As the Digital Education Revolution funding has now concluded this model can no longer be sustained. As a result the College moved to a BYODD approach in 2019.

Why does my Daughter need a Laptop?

The integrated use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) is embedded in all NSW school syllabus documents. It is a mandated requirement in all subjects that students access ICT to assist their learning. There is also a requirement to develop ICT skills in each subject.

Where do I purchase my device?

It is up to parents to make their own decisions on where to purchase the BYODD device, as long as the device meets the BYODD requirements for OLMC.

Who loads software onto my daughter's Macbook Air?

The College learning and teaching environment utilises CloudShare (Google Education Apps) and is accessed in full by the student's school email account. From January 2019, the links to any other necessary software to support student learning will be available for download from the College website.

Do I need to purchase a specific case?

OLMC recommends students use a hard sided laptop case for maximum laptop protection. The case purchased is left to the discretion of the parent/student. The school will not be providing or selling laptop cases.

Do I need to purchase a backup device?

OLMC recommends students purchase an external backup device (external hard drive) to back up their school work. Some data will be stored online via Google Drive.

Should I insure my child's BYODD?

The device should have an appropriate level of insurance cover. The purchase of this policy is the responsibility of families to organise.

Who is responsible for the repair process?

Parents and carers are responsible for the maintenance and repair of the device. College ICT staff will still be available to assist students with providing solutions to issues with the device and manage warranty repairs under the AppleCare Protection Plan.

If my child's device is being repaired what will they use? How long will they have access to the replacement?

The College will support students whose device requires repair, by providing access to a loan device for up to a maximum of two weeks at a time. Loan devices are available from the school library.

Do we need to sign a User Agreement even though we have purchased the device?

Yes. An updated Sydney Catholic Schools' ICT User Agreement Policy to be signed by students and parents will be provided at the beginning of the 2019 school year.

My child doesn't know how to use a MacBook. How will the College support my child?

OLMC will conduct a Year 7 Bootcamp at the start of the 2019 school year.

What device has been designated by the College?

13 inch MacBook Air.
The laptop must meet the following minimum specifications:

- 1.8 GHZ Intel i5 Processor
- 8GB RAM
- Flash storage – 128gb min
- 3 or 4 Year AppleCare Protection Plan.
(Please note, you Apple Care Protection Plan coverage starts from your laptop purchase date. Parents may have to purchase the 4th year from a vendor other than Apple)

Parents may purchase or use a different laptop as long as the device is an Apple product that meets the College's minimum specifications.