The BYOD Programme 2026/27

The **Bring Your Own Device** (BYOD) programme means that all students in MYP and DP would be expected to have a laptop at school with them, charged and ready to use every day. One key goal of our BYOD program is to keep costs manageable by not requiring an expensive device and setting basic requirements such that the vast majority of existing devices will meet our standard.

What are the benefits of a BYOD program?

1. Prepares students for participation in a society that is increasingly reliant on digital systems and communication. While this item usually refers to preparing students for the job market, 13 of the 21 most valuable career skills were directly related to technology use (Renzulli, Weisser, and Leonhardt 2016). Students use technology and the internet frequently, but are rarely provided with instruction on digital citizenship or the responsible participation in online communities. Using digital devices in school allows for students to not only learn skills related to careers, but also how to navigate the online environment safely and appropriately.

2. Learning extends outside the classroom. Students in schools with laptop programs report higher levels of engagement and positive attitudes toward school. (Zheng et al. 2016) The same study also notes that students in schools with laptop programs showed statistically significant improvements in English, mathematics, and sciences (Zheng et al. 2016). The use of a student's personal device also allows them to customise and refine their use of a single machine that they use both at school and at home.

3. Increased communication between teacher, student and parent. The use of systems such as email, Google Classroom and Toddle allows a much more fluid communication between all stakeholders in a child's education. Over time, devices also allow for the development of more personalized learning programs, where students can learn at their own pace. Students can also collaborate more easily on assignments, and even collaborate with students at other schools.

4. Sustainability. Digital environments make it possible to rely less on paper, which is in keeping with our ABIS mission which values and supports sustainability.

Laptop Recommendations, considering future use in MYP and DP.

1. Operating System

- **Windows**: Windows 11 (to support longevity in software compatibility)
- **macOS**: macOS 12 Monterey or newer

2. Processor (windows only)

- **Minimum**: Intel Core i5 or AMD Ryzen 5 (Ryzen 7 or Intel Core i7 is even better if the budget allows)
- **Recommended**: Intel Core i7 or AMD Ryzen 7 for smoother multitasking, especially when students will use design or STEM applications.

3. Memory (RAM)

- **Minimum**: 8 GB
- **Recommended**: 16 GB (This will help with advanced applications, future-proofing, and multitasking.)

4. Storage

- **SSD (Solid State Drive)**: 256 GB minimum, 512 GB recommended for ample space for projects, files, and multimedia
- **Cloud storage**: Look into options like Google Drive, OneDrive, or iCloud for additional storage flexibility if needed.

5. Display

- **Size**: 13–15 inches for a good balance between screen space and portability
- **Resolution**: 1080p (Full HD) minimum; if doing design or video work, a 2K or 4K display might be beneficial

6. Battery Life

- **Minimum**: 8–10 hours for longer school days and study sessions

7. Durability and Portability

- For long-term use, consider laptops with metal bodies or extra durability for portability.
- Some laptops come with spill-resistant keyboards, and protective cases are available for added security.

8. Graphics

- **Integrated Graphics**: Sufficient for most school tasks, web browsing, and basic multimedia editing

- **Dedicated GPU**: If the student might get into graphic design, video editing, or 3D modelling, a dedicated graphics card (e.g., NVIDIA GeForce GTX or RTX series) will be helpful.

9. Connectivity

- **Wi-Fi**: Wi-Fi 6 (802.11ax) for faster speeds and longevity
- **Ports**: USB-A, USB-C, HDMI, and potentially an SD card reader for flexibility with peripherals

10. Webcam and Microphone

- A high-quality webcam (1080p) and microphone will be important for online classes, presentations, and virtual collaboration.

11. Budget

- **Minimum**: Around 500–800 euros for an entry-level Windows laptop
- **Recommended**: 1000–1500+ for a Windows or MacBook model that will last through MYP and DP.

Suggested Models:

- **Windows**:
  - Dell XPS 13 or 15
  - HP Spectre x360
  - Lenovo ThinkPad X1 Carbon
- **MacBook**:
  - MacBook Air (M1 or M2 for great battery life and performance)
  - MacBook Pro 13" (M2) if more power is needed for creative applications

With these models and specs, the laptop should remain versatile and high-performing throughout the Middle Years and Diploma Programmes.

The expectation is that every student arrives at school with a fully charged laptop (and also brings their charger) in order to be ready for learning.