Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)
Requirements and Recommendations

Belmont Hill's BYOD program requires students to bring a device to campus each day. The program requires families to purchase the device that both fulfills the program's requirements, detailed in the BYOD document on this page, and that they think is most appropriate for their son. Each family is responsible for the maintenance of their son's device. Students may opt for the purchase of an Apple iPad instead of a laptop if they so choose (other brand tablets can be used, but not as a main device). For families considering purchase of a device now or in the year ahead, the school offers the following guidelines.

Laptop Specifications

The following should be considered minimum requirements when purchasing a new laptop. They represent the baseline performance standard for a student computer, which should provide several years of use. **CHROMEBOOKS ARE NOT AN OPTION AT BELMONT HILL** (Due to their lack of compatibility, ability to run software, etc.)

Apple Laptops
• Minimum Requirements
o 8 GB of RAM (unified memory)
o 256 GB of storage recommended (Hard drive - default size is fine for day-to-day use. If your student will be using the laptop for video production, a larger hard drive is recommended).

Windows-Based Laptops (PCs)
• Brands
o Most brands of PC laptops will be compatible with Belmont Hill's resources, but major brands like Lenovo, Dell, HP, or Surface have a stronger track record of longevity and quality warranty programs.
• Minimum Requirements
o 8 GB of RAM (unified memory)
o 256 GB of storage recommended (Hard drive - default size is fine for day-to-day use. If your student will be using the laptop for video production, a larger hard drive is recommended).

Apple iPads Specifications

Apple iPads (Air or Pro)
• Minimum Requirements
o Apple M3 or M4 Chip
o 256 GB of storage recommended (Hard drive - default size is fine for day-to-day use. If your student will be using the laptop for video production, a larger hard drive is recommended).
o Must have compatible keyboard (Magic keyboard recommended)
o Stylus is recommended but not required

Warranty Coverage

We highly recommend purchasing an extended warranty plan for your laptop.

• Windows Based Laptops (PCs)

o We highly recommend purchasing an extended warranty for Windows based laptops.

o You can consider purchasing a service plan from a third party, such as Best Buy or Staples, but with those plans you MUST take the equipment to the store in person for service.

• Apple Laptops/iPads (Macs)

o AppleCare is available for up to 3 years and covers most issues that may arise.

o Apple offers a free limited warranty for the first year, but we recommend purchasing AppleCare at the time of purchase due to the extended repair coverage.

o We strongly recommend that you do not purchase an extended warranty plan through a 3rd party for Apple products.

We are not aware of any manufacturers that offer accidental damage coverage for their equipment. Third party services, such as Best Buy and Staples, do offer accidental damage coverage at a premium. If you use one of these plans, you are required to take the laptop to the store in person to have it serviced. Otherwise, accidental damage is not generally covered and would require out-of-pocket expense.

Policy Regarding Support of Equipment Not Owned by Belmont Hill School

Belmont Hill offers a robust and secure wireless network for students to use their own devices for educational purposes. The Belmont Hill IT Department will assist with helping a working device connect to the wireless network if needed. Belmont Hill personnel cannot attempt to repair, correct, troubleshoot, or be responsible for malfunctioning personal hardware or software. Classroom teachers are also not responsible for getting student devices up and running. Students are responsible for maintaining a functioning device for classroom use. Devices are brought to school at the students' and parents' own risk. While the school will, as always, help students keep their possessions secure, in the event that a privately owned device is lost, stolen, or damaged, Belmont Hill is not responsible for any financial or data loss. It is strongly recommended that all devices have secure passwords. Passwords should be required when waking or turning on a device.

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