



2026-27 Laptop Requirements

What is the St. Stephen's laptop program?

We view a laptop as an essential resource for a successful student at St. Stephen's Episcopal School. A laptop provides a gateway to a student's daily resources. These resources include our learning management system, where important class resources are found; Google Apps is an essential tool for word processing and presentation creation; and other software programs, such as Adobe Creative Cloud, that students will need to access for assignments in certain classes or Digiexam, the lockdown browser we currently use.

How will students use laptops at school?

This will differ from class to class and teacher to teacher. Some teachers require students to bring their laptops to class for use every day, while others may require use on certain days. Other teachers may opt to have class without laptops. Most importantly, students with laptops will be able to access their assignments and online resources wherever they have Wi-Fi access.

Are there additional tech tools students need?

Yes. All students **MUST** have headphones or earbuds.

We also recommend students have:

- An additional charger with them each day
- A protective case

Who will provide support for the device I purchase?

Each family will be responsible for keeping their laptop(s) operational so that it is ready to be used each school day. The Technology Department will provide very basic support, including installing and troubleshooting school-licensed software. Becker Library will have a limited number of loaner laptops for students to use on a short-term basis in emergency situations.

We recommend that families consider purchasing a 3-year warranty along with a new device to avoid costly repairs.

What type of laptop should I purchase?

The following chart presents the laptop specifications the school recommends to enable students to run the programs they will use on campus. It includes specifications for new devices, as well as devices students may already own. The laptop needs to have an attached keyboard so the student can type on the laptop. Please be advised that Chromebooks, MacBook Neos, iPads or other tablet-only devices will not meet the minimum device requirements at St. Stephen's.

	NEW DEVICE	EXISTING DEVICE
Year	2026	2023 or newer
Processor	PC: Intel i7, not Snapdragon (ARM)* Apple: M4 or better	PC: Intel i7, not Snapdragon (ARM)* Apple: M2 or greater
RAM	PC: 16 GB or more Apple: 24 GB or more	16 GB or more
Hard Drive	512 GB or larger	256 GB or larger
Screen Size	13" or larger	13" or larger

*We continue to experience issues with software on Windows computers with the Snapdragon (ARM) Processor. If you want a Windows computer, we recommend purchasing a laptop with an Intel Processor. This issue doesn't affect Apple computers.

Do I need to purchase Office 365 or Adobe Creative Cloud for my child?

No. St. Stephen's will provide both programs for all students.

For more information about the laptop program, email Director of Technology Dan Laws at dlaws@sstx.org.