



BYOD RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2026–27

Digital technology continues to play an essential role in student learning both in and out of the classroom. To fully participate in the learning experience at CIS, all Middle School and High School students are expected to bring a reliable personal laptop to school each day.

When selecting a device, families should consider performance, battery life, durability, portability, and compatibility with school-required software.

Preferred Devices

Students must bring a full-featured laptop running either **Windows** or **macOS**.

Chromebooks & Tablets

Chromebooks, tablets, and iPads (even with keyboards) **are not permitted** as a student's primary BYOD device, as they do not support the full range of software used at CIS. Students may be required to install and run applications such as:

- Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, Illustrator, Lightroom, Premiere Pro, etc.)
- Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel)
- Autodesk (STEAM)
- Other curriculum-specific software provided by CIS

CIS provides licenses for many of these applications, but they require a compatible Windows or macOS operating system.

Minimum Recommended Specifications

- **Processor:** Intel i5 / AMD Ryzen 5 / Apple M3 or A18 Pro (MacBook Neo)
- **RAM:** Minimum 8 GB (16 GB recommended)
- **Storage:** 256 GB SSD or larger
- **Screen Size:** 13" or larger
- **Operating System:** Windows 11 or macOS 12+
- **Wi-Fi:** Wi-Fi 5 (802.11ac) or newer

Notes When Buying

Device Lifespan:

All devices have a limited lifespan, which depends on how they're used and maintained, as well as how quickly software requirements evolve. Families should expect students to need **at least two devices** during their Middle and High School years.

Protective Case

We strongly recommend purchasing a **hard-shell case** to protect the laptop from bumps and pressure inside backpacks.



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Laptop Size vs Portability

Larger laptops may offer more power and larger screens but can be heavy and bulky for daily transport. Consider a balance between performance and portability.

Device Care & Security

Students are responsible for the care and security of their devices. We recommend:

- Using a password-protected account
- Keeping the operating system updated
- Carrying the laptop in a protective case
- Avoiding pressure from books or heavy items in backpacks
- Labeling the device with the student's name
- Backing up files regularly

CIS provides unlimited Google Drive storage through student accounts.

Technical Support

CIS does not provide maintenance or repair services for student-owned devices.

Students are expected to arrive at school each day with a fully charged and functional laptop.

Questions

If you have any questions or would like assistance selecting an appropriate device, please contact:
fabio.rocco@cis.ky