
FAQ's...

Q) *Why Mac?*

A) A preference for the Mac OS and iOS platform for Middle & Senior Phase extends on the familiarity established for working within a Mac environment in Junior Phase of the College. The MacBook provides the most 'complete' solution in terms of device reliability, sturdiness of design, battery longevity, ease of maintenance, relevance to student lifestyle, ease of software management and alignment with staff professional development in digital literacy skills development.

Q) *Can students in Years 8, 9, 11 and 12 also access the Unity MacBook Bundle?*

A) Yes - absolutely. The same bundle, inclusions, software support and service arrangements apply.

Q) *What if I purchase a MacBook from an alternative supplier?*

A) There are no restrictions on purchasing a MacBook from an alternative supplier. The MacBook must however be protected by both a shell and protective case. All warranty and non-warranty repair arrangements are as per the point of purchase agreement and not-covered by the Unity College + Smile I.T. arrangements.

Q) *I have a MacBook that is less than 12 months old - will this be OK for my child to use?*

A) Yes. It will also be covered by the on-campus software support program being implemented for 2016.

Q) *Are there 'other' payment plans and options to access the MacBook Bundle?*

A) Yes. The Flexi-Education Rental plan can alternatively be arranged over 12 or 24 months. Monthly rental fee obviously changes according to the length of the rental term. For more information on payment options please contact Smile I.T. via the details provided in this brochure.

FAQ's cont...

Q) *What are the benefits of choosing Option A or B?*

A) The key built-in benefits and the primary emphasis on recommending either of these options is the degree of control over the variables that result in low levels of device reliability. Devices purchased under these options are guaranteed 'hot swap' or 'loaner' device coverage, on-going software maintenance and technical support provided on-campus, full warranty coverage for the life of the device and on-campus pick-up/drop-off service for both warranty and non-warranty repairs.

Q) *Will my child be disadvantaged if we can't provide them with a MacBook?*

A) No. Provided you have set them up to succeed with a device that meets the minimum specifications set for Option C and that you have ensured that warranty, non-warranty support coverage and insurance support has been carefully considered.

Q) *I would like to give my child the MacBook as a Christmas present - can we take 'early' delivery of it?*

A) Yes. We have set up two delivery date choices for devices purchased under Option A or B. Pre-Christmas delivery information will be provided in early Term 4.

Essential Contacts...

For additional follow-up queries please contact:

Jim McKendry

P-12 ICLT Coordinator - Unity College

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Phone: 07 5490 5777

For all enquires regarding MacBook Bundle purchasing please contact:

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Unity College

Technology Device Options & Information Guide - 2016

... for Parents of students
in Year 7 & Year 10



Changes for 2016...

In 2016 Unity College will be implementing a revised set of options for students bringing their own technology device in Years 7 and 10. These changes have been introduced following a review of the current 'BYO' technology device specifications. The current specification set that allows iPads, tablet devices, and laptops that do not meet suitability criteria, will gradually be phased out over the next three years.

The Rationale

Driving digital literacy acceleration is dependent on reliable and functional technology in the hands of both students and teachers. The current device landscape is one of highly variable reliability and limited equality in the functionality of student devices. This variability in device specifications has resulted in a limited ability of teaching staff to provide basic support for students in the use of their device to achieve their teaching and learning goals. Unfortunately, the net result is a compromised scope for both staff and students to experience shared growth and success in digital literacy skill development.

Without implementing restrictions on device specifications, the College will continue to be unable to provide for an ever-increasing demand for software and device management support and servicing needs. These support mechanisms are essential if we are to experience success in our shared goal of providing environments for our students that are reflective of 21st century teaching and learning.

Perhaps most importantly, our review of the current BYO device specifications suggests that this model has inadvertently created an overt level of inequity within our student community. This situation is of course incompatible with the safe learning environment goals of the College from both a pastoral and academic perspective.

The New Unity College Technology Device Specification Options...

Parents are directed to choose one of the following technology device options for students entering either Year 7 or Year 10 in 2016.

	Option A Unity College/Smile IT MacBook Bundle (Up-front)	Option B Unity College/Smile IT MacBook Bundle (Flexi-Rent)	Option C BYO Win 8 or Win 10 Laptop or MacBook
Minimum Device Specification	11" MacBook Air 128GB + 500GB External Hard Drive + STM Dux Protective Hard Case + Protective Silicon Keyboard Cover + Targus Rugged Protective Bag	11" MacBook Air 128GB + 500GB External Hard Drive + STM Dux Protective Hard Case + Protective Silicon Keyboard Cover + Targus Rugged Protective Bag	Windows or Mac Laptop + Laptop must be less than 12 mths old. + Cannot be an iPad or Tablet device. + Must be 'Wi-Fi' capable. + Must be protected by a suitable shell and protective case.
Warranty Repair Coverage + On-campus Technical & Software Support	Apple Care + 3year Extended Warranty + On-campus pick-up and drop-off for all device repairs + On-campus software re-imaging and upgrading service + 'Hot Swap' device provided by College whilst warranty repairs are completed. + Microsoft Office installation and College Wi-Fi Connectivity.	Apple Care + 3year Extended Warranty + On-campus pick-up and drop-off for all device repairs + On-campus software re-imaging and upgrading service + 'Loaner' device provided by Flexi-Rent whilst warranty repairs are completed. + Microsoft Office installation and College Wi-Fi Connectivity.	Point of Purchase Warranty Agreement + Microsoft Office installation and College Wi-Fi Connectivity. + The College is not able to provide on-campus repair and software support for Option C devices.
Non-warranty Damage/Lost/Stolen Support	Itemising the device on individual family Home & Contents Insurance is strongly advised to ensure non-warranty damage/loss/theft is covered. Please refer to your Home & Contents Insurance Policy for clarification of coverage.	'Protect' coverage is provided within the Flexi-Rent package in the event of 'theft, accidental loss or damage' from + An unlocked classroom or school building during normal school hours or an organised school event. + Loss in transit during travel to and from school. <i>*Conditions do apply</i> Any loss or damage that occurs outside of the above will only be covered if arranged via individual family Home and Contents Insurance policies.	Itemising the device on individual family Home & Contents Insurance is strongly advised to ensure non-warranty damage/loss/theft is covered. Please refer to your Home & Contents Insurance Policy for clarification of coverage.
Payment Option	Upfront Please Request Current Pricing	Flexi-Education Rental Monthly rental fee varies depending on length of rental term	Not Applicable Costs and payment plans vary

Variations for Option A + B

Device upgrade to 13" MacBook Air or MacBook Pro is possible - additional cost implications will obviously apply. Please refer to the contact details for Smile I.T. for additional information on device upgrade options.