Laptop purchasing Information

WARRAGUL REGIONAL COLLEGE

Community | Achievement | Respect | Effort

A Proud History, a Bright Future

www.wrc.vic.edu.au

Laptop information

Digital Learning is an essential and mandated part of all curriculum at Warragul Regional College, which enables our students to be active and connected learners. Students will use their laptops extensively in every subject at school for accessing learning material through our Learning management system that will include, assessment, research, accessing their report and timetable through Compass and for communications as well and many other learning focused opportunities. It is important that every student attending the college has their own laptop computer to ensure they are undertaking the learning experiences offered to them at Warragul Regional College.

What is the right device for students?

At Warragul Regional College we are committed to supporting our parent community to make informed choices about which device is right for their child.

When deciding on a device, parents must consider:

- What will the student use their device for (Specialised art courses or general classes?)
- Does the device have the capability and robustness needed?
- Will I need an extended warranty?
- Will I need accidental damage insurance?
- What devices are suitable and able to be used at Warragul Regional College?
- What assistance does the school offer?

How will the student use their device?

All students will use their devices to access learning material for all subjects through our Learning Management System (Canvas), as well as access our Organisational Management system (Compass), to obtain information of timetables, reports etc. Each student will need a device that meets the minimum specifications for this reason so that they can access, create, submit and check feedback on their learning tasks.

Some subjects at school such as art may require a device with more power or memory than others due to specific programs that are required to be used, so those students will use software such as the Adobe creative cloud to create necessary work.

Most day-to-day work will only require the use of a web browser which will be built into all devices with only the occasional separate program needed separate to this for specialised subjects.

What devices have the capability and robustness needed by students?

A student's laptop needs to be available for school every day and for every subject, so ensuring the device can cope with heavy use over a long period of time is vital. Additionally, it is important that we recognize children make mistakes and can have accidents. Laptops can obtain damage no matter how careful students are, and it can take a lot of time and money to repair them. From experience, we know the robustness of a device is vital as well as getting it repaired in a timely manner.

- Warranty issues do arise and take time to fix, even if there is no cost.
- Accidents do happen (especially broken screens). They are expensive when they happen and can take a long time to remedy.
- Students must have access to a laptop when their device is unavailable, or they risk falling behind.

How important is an extended warranty?

Student laptops are required to work long hours and travel consistently so, a solid and reliable warranty is vital, particularly in the second and third year of the life of the device. Devices from the organised portals have the option included for 3 years in the cost. Please check the warranty conditions carefully when purchasing.

We recommend obtaining a high-quality device that is backed with long term warranty, preferably (3 years) and accidental damage insurance is a good option to have. Devices purchased through the various portals that Warragul Regional College has provided links for, allows parents to see a variety of devices available to students. Through these portals, we might be able to assist students and parents with issues that may arise with a device.

In the past on average, the school has helped to apply for 200+ accidental damage claims and 400+ warranties over each year-level's laptop lifetime.

Is accidental damage insurance a good idea?

No matter how careful children are, accidents do happen, and they will not always be the fault of the owner. Repairs are expensive and even minor damage can incur significant costs. This type of insurance cover is a great way to ensure that a device can cost less later down the track should any damage occur, and whilst the cost is more up front, it will cost less overall. It is highly recommended that accidental insurance is purchased with a device.

On average the school has helped to apply for at least 50 accidental damage claims every year.

What are the choices of devices available?

While there are countless devices available on the market, it is important that the device choice meets not only budget, but the needs of the student and their subjects. Warragul Regional College provides parents with some portals that have devices which have been checked against the needs of the school to assist in purchasing decisions.

Parents / Guardians may:

- Purchase a device through a portal suggested by Warragul Regional College
- Buy from a trusted retailer that meets the requirements as listed below.
- Student laptops need to work constantly (5+ days per week for 6 hours per day, plus homework, mostly powered by battery), so need to be reliable and not too cheap or flimsy.

Device Minimum System Requirements

- Processor Dual Core 1.5GHz
- Memory 4GB Ram
- Battery Life 6Hours Minimum
- Hard Drive 256 GB
- Network (Wi-Fi) Integrated 802.11 g/n/ac
- Operating System Windows 10, Mac OS, and ChromeOS

The school does not currently support Tablets of any kind

What assistance does the College offer?

The school IT department can help support some types of computer related problems and queries, such as:

- Warranty claims (for portal purchased devices)
- Accidental damage claims (for portal purchased devices)
- Advice on repairs and damaged devices
- General technical support or advise.

The IT department can be contacted by calling **5623 9900 option 6** or via email at **it@wrc.vic.edu.au**

Condition of Wi-Fi and network access

To connect to and use the school provided wi-fi, all parents/guardians and students **must** agree to the WRC acceptable use policy and have their devices align with the policies set out by the school and Victorian Government. These include but are not limited to:

- WRC Acceptable Use Policy
- WRC Bring Your Own Device Policy
- Victorian Child Safe Standards Policy
- Victorian Digital Learning in Schools Policy
- Victorian Cybersafety and Responsible Use of Digital Technologies Policy

How to order

If you wish to order a device via the online portals, please follow the instructions set out below. You may also purchase an appropriate device from any retailer provided it has the specifications required.

Ordering Instructions

1. Select one of the available order portals listed on the WRC website under enrolment (list below), or you can purchase your own device that meets the minimum specifications from a retailer of your choosing.

   Learning With Technologies

   Edunet Access Code: WRC23

   CenterCom

   JB-Hi-Fi Access Code: WRC2023

2. Follow the prompts to choose your device, insurance cover and device accessories.
3. Enter your personal details, including your home delivery address.
4. Select a payment method and complete your order.
5. If you have any questions, please contact call the school IT department on **(03) 5623 9913.**
6. **The devices will be sent to your home for you to set up.**

   Note: *Government legislation requires vendors to defer the sale of insurance for five days*

Setting up your child's device (must be done at home)

When you receive your child's device from your chosen purchasing option, you must set up the computer before coming to the school. Your child will need to have their computer login information with them, so that they can login and connect to our network through information that we will give directly to students.
Setup Checklist:
- Open device box and follow the quick setup guide.
- Write down the created username and password for safe keeping. (Keep a copy at home and with the student).
- Ensure that the created account uses something memorable as they will need this to login to their computer every day, and the school will not be able to assist if this is forgotten or lost.
- Student brings device to school where they will be given WRC login details for all systems including school Wifi connection. (This will be completed at school)
- Staff will assist students to enroll into our assistance program to help support students with programs when needed.

Warragul Regional College

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The underlying concept expressed by the logo is that of dynamic youth emerging from a rural origin.

The horizon of the ploughed field points to the heart of youth as a gesture of the direction and input that the college gives into the lives of its students.

The human form has one hand leading into the future with the other held out calling others to participate.

The fluidity of the posture reflects the college's inclination toward the performing arts.

The burgundy alludes to the rich red soils of the area, while the navy blue speaks of the wide open spaces of the future.

The figure in the logo is stepping forward from the white space (the innocence of childhood) and out into the wider community.