



## 2024-2025 Upper School BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Program for Incoming 5<sup>th</sup> Graders and new Upper School Students

Dear Parents,

Prince of Peace students in grades 5-8 are required to provide their own non-cellular laptop or tablet with a keyboard. The students will be using their devices at home and at school to write original work, access online resources, and utilize online textbook features.

Each student uses a school-provided Microsoft Office 365 account which allows the student to download and install the latest Office version. Generally, any laptop or Windows tablet purchased in the last few years should meet the BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) specifications needed.

Students must have a charged non-cellular laptop in school every day.

### Care and Safety Checklist:

- Case (**sturdy/rugged case** with a handle *or* over the shoulder strap) Books and papers will *not* be carried in the case.  
The case should hold the device, keyboard if it is not attached to the device, and earbuds.
- We strongly suggest you purchase a service plan with Accidental Damage through the manufacturer & Theft protection through an insurance company to protect your investment.
- All families are responsible for repairs and maintenance.

### Features Checklist:

- Non-cellular device with a keyboard
- Windows 11 or Mac OS only. No S-Mode or Chromebooks that have restrictions to download software. You will need to download Microsoft Minecraft EDU, GoGuardian, and printer drivers.
- Proactive anti-virus protection
- Intel or AMD Core or higher like the 'i5 series' processors
- Memory – at least 8 GB of RAM
- HD - 128 GB or more. We suggest **solid state** HD.
- Dual-band wifi card

Cont.

# INFLUENCING THE WORLD FOR CHRIST

Prince of Peace Catholic School | 5100 West Plano Parkway | Plano, Texas 75093

P: (972) 380-5505 | F: (972) 380-2570 | [www.popschool.net](http://www.popschool.net)



- Minimum 8-hour battery or more
- Earbuds. No Air pods. We actually want to see the cords 😊
- No iPads due to limited file and page management as well as limited functionality in applications which are used in many educational games and curriculum activities.

Why no iPads in grades 5-8?

- Microsoft suite of products, Minecraft EDU, Social Studies eBook, and Learning.com have limited functionality on iPad OS.
- The MLA format for Works Cited uses a hanging indent. This feature is used on every assignment that requires citing a print or internet source.
- Adobe Acrobat is necessary for many classroom resources.

Notes:

- While Macs are acceptable, our environment is best suited to Windows devices as we heavily utilize Microsoft services. Any digital service used while on campus go exclusively through ClassLink.
- Be familiar with your device's photo and video editing apps such as Windows Video Editor.
- Download & install GoGuardian and [Microsoft Minecraft EDU](#).
- Students should **not** be Administrators on their devices. A parent should be the Administrator with full rights. The student should be listed as a Standard User.
- If a teacher needs an application installed at home, the teacher will send advance notice to parents.
- The official name of the device (Ex: MSmith Laptop) should include the family last name.
- Identifying labels with the student's name should be on the laptop, charging cable, earbuds cord, and on the case.
- For students whose laptop chargers are no more than 65W, they are welcome to bring a portable charging device/power bank. Ex. Halo Bolt

It is totally up to each family to decide where to purchase your system.

No matter where you go, be sure to ask about education/school pricing.

Some good sources for purchasing devices and extended warranties are:

- 1) [Dell.com](#) We recommend 'built for education' over consumer/retail devices.
- 2) [Apple](#): Questions? Call your local Apple Store.
- 3) [Microsoft](#): Questions? Call your local Microsoft Store.

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