



## Middle and Upper School Student Computer Information Sheet 2023-2024

### Bring Your Own Laptop Program

At Wildwood, many types of technology tools are integrated into learning experiences across subject areas. **Beginning in 6th grade, we strongly encourage the use of digital technology through Wildwood’s Bring Your Own Laptop (BYOL) program.**

Benefits of one-to-one laptops for students:

- Families can customize accessibility options for their student
- Students have increased academic independence, productivity, and participation
- Students can personalize their digital organizational systems
- Students can access school-related content from anywhere
- Teachers have greater efficiency in the distribution of classroom assignments and materials

### Laptop Recommendations

Families often have questions about what kind of laptop students should use. Our Technology Department recommends the following:

<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>6th-8th Grade</b>	<b>9th-12th Grade</b>
<b>Model</b>	MacBook Air	MacBook Pro
<b>Operating System</b>	Big Sur 11 or later	Big Sur 11 or later
<b>Hard Drive Capacity</b>	128GB or greater with 60GB of free space for projects	256GB or greater with 150GB of free space for projects
<b>RAM</b>	8GB or greater	8GB or greater
<b>Accessories</b>	Protective case AC adapter/charger	Protective case AC adapter/charger

Depending on the overall laptop performance and reliability in 11th grade, families can decide to upgrade during senior year and transition into college with the same laptop.

## BYOL Student Guidelines

- Students are expected to use technology appropriately as outlined in Wildwood's Technology Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and Student Handbook. Students who are found to have used technology in violation of the AUP will have their technology privileges limited or revoked at the discretion of school administration.
- Smart phones, iPads, and tablets are not suitable as computing devices for meeting the academic demands of middle and upper school.
- All students must comply with any teacher or administrator request to share content on the computer or power down their computer while on campus.
- Microsoft's Office Suite is available to all Wildwood students. Word, Excel, and accompanying apps can be downloaded through a student's Wildwood email account, which allows up to (5) licenses per user.
- Based on the compatibility requirements of our Learning Management System (LMS) and other web applications, the recommended browser is Google Chrome. Students are discouraged from using Firefox and Safari.
- Parents/guardians who wish to apply parental/administrative controls on their student's laptop should understand that students are sometimes asked to download an application or adjust settings for a project or activity. A password is needed to complete these configurations.
- Students are entirely responsible for the hardware and any associated cost if the device happens to be lost, damaged, or stolen. Wildwood School-owned devices that are damaged/or lost by students are subjected to disciplinary actions, or in some cases, partial payment for damaged devices.
- Students are required to use their Wildwood Google accounts to save all academic- related data so that it is accessible from anywhere and protected from loss.

## BYOL Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What can I expect to pay for a new Apple laptop?** The average cost of a baseline 13-inch Apple MacBook Pro that meets the recommended specifications is \$1,299. AppleCare options start at \$249. We recommend that families purchase AppleCare, which will extend the warranty on a new laptop for two years, for a total of three years coverage. Computers should always be kept in a case to maximize protection. **Please contact the Director of Information Technology Mark Gutierrez at [mgutierrez@wildwood.org](mailto:mgutierrez@wildwood.org) or Director of Equity and Inclusion Karen Dye at [kdye@wildwood.org](mailto:kdye@wildwood.org) should you need financial assistance or to discuss financing options.**

- 2. What should I consider when purchasing a new Apple laptop?** When purchasing a new computer, the expected lifespan is 3-5 years. With the proper care and maintenance, a new laptop purchased for 6th grade should support a student through 8th-10th grade. Please note that students' laptops do not have to be brand new. Apple's refurbished sales department offers gently used options with the same warranty offering as brand-new purchases. Students may also bring a laptop that the family already owns.
- 3. Where can students get technical support if their personally owned laptop is not working properly?** The Technology Department is available for general help and consultations. However, families are responsible for finding repair shops from an outside party.
- 4. What is the security and damages policy?** The individual owner is responsible for the security and safety of all belongings, including laptops. Wildwood School is not liable for any device brought to school. Individuals are encouraged to utilize security methods to protect their own devices. The school will not investigate the theft of, or damage to, a personal device.
- 5. Will students have general access to school computers?** Yes. Laptops are available for students to check out on a daily basis while on campus and must be returned by the end of the school day. If a laptop is needed for more than a day (case-by-case basis) or if the student's personal laptop is under repair, please contact Director of IT Mark Gutierrez at [mgutierrez@wildwood.org](mailto:mgutierrez@wildwood.org) for arrangements.
- 6. What is the expectation for charging equipment?** Students are expected to bring their laptop fully charged at the beginning of each school day. However, students should bring their own AC adapters to charge during downtime.