

10 October 2019

Device Information

Dear Parents/Guardians

As you are aware, Curro embraces 21st-century learning in an effort to utilise technology in the educational process so as to best prepare our learners for the technology-driven world we live in. Basic computer skills, robotics, coding and application development have become vital in ensuring that individuals have a place in the modern workplace and that they have the necessary requirements to start their own businesses should they wish to do so.

Further to this, we believe that the use of technology can facilitate the construction of knowledge and learning of critical skills such as communication, collaboration, critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving, digital literacy, computational thinking, meta-cognition, motivation, resilience, reflection and even empathy. As a school we expect all learners from Grade 5 upwards to have devices, not only for the accessing of knowledge (through the Internet or e-books), but also for researching, collating, presenting, game-based learning and so on.

The teacher plays an important role in facilitating learners in gaining essential knowledge as well as introducing children to innovative thinking and 21st-century learning opportunities. Our academic staff are continually being trained in the use of technology in the classroom and it is exciting to see them embrace this. There is certainly still a place for pen and paper as well as direct instruction, and we do not expect learners to utilise technology in every activity. The mindset should be one of enhancing the learning process and not replacing it.

You have probably noticed on your textbook lists that some of the books do come in e-book format. There are specific instructions with regards to the ordering of these e-books (as specified in the cover letter). These can be ordered through MyHub. Learners will make use of the ITSI e-reader to access their e-books.

As a school we also make use of Microsoft Office 365 Education. This offers a suite of tools, including Microsoft Office, Teams, OneNote, OneDrive, Sway, Skype and more – enabling learner-teacher collaboration, communication and a creative space to produce and share learning resources and project work. Having these tools ensures that our learners are given the best opportunity to develop digital literacy and collaboration skills for the workplace.

Minimum specifications for devices

The minimum device specifications are set out in the brochure attached. Parents can make a choice based on their budgets. The minimum specification for a Windows device will be sufficient, provided learners are not trying to open many windows at a time or using graphic-intensive games or applications. Should they wish to do so, higher-specification devices should be invested in.

Devices – provided they meet the minimum specifications – may include tablets (although a keyboard is highly recommended), 2-in-1 devices, or laptops. Android and iOS (Apple) devices are permitted, but not recommended as our support team cannot provide device support for these. Some of the brands we have had the least issues with are Acer, Lenovo, HP, Asus and Dell.

Kind regards

Mr L Duffield
Head of Primary School

Ms E Harmse
Intermediate Phase Head
