BETHESDA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
PREMIER CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Welcome to the "BCA Bring Your Own Device Program"

Your child will be using their portable laptop device to connect to the myriad of online resources we have in store for them. In addition to select programs chosen by their teacher, they will also have access to the following features:

- Dedicated High Speed Internet (*exclusive network for Middle School Students ONLY*)
- Secure Online Experience (*all online access is monitored and logged*)
- Desktop and Online Versions of Microsoft Office 2019 (*the latest version*)
- 5 Copies of Installable Desktop Versions of Microsoft Office 2019 for Personal Use (*you will be able to download and install the latest version of MS Office on a PC, MAC, or Tablet*)
- Unlimited Online Cloud Backup & Storage (*students will NEVER lose their online homework*)
- Personal @BCAcrusaders.org E-Mail Address (*required*)
- Online Textbooks (*grade or class specific*)
- Online Homework Submission and Classroom Collaboration using Google G-Suite Products, Google Classroom, Microsoft OneNote for Classrooms, and Microsoft Teams

Based on BCA's BYOD program experience, listed below are the latest system requirements for your student to have a successful experience in the "***BCA BYOD Program"***.

NOTE: Every middle school student is REQUIRED to have access to a technology device for the 2020-2021 school year.

BYOD Must Have Requirements:

- **APPROVED OPERATING SYSTEMS: Windows 10** (*Home and Pro versions*) **and MAC OS X v10.7** (*or higher*)
- **APPROVED DEVICES: ONLY Windows Laptops, OS X MacBooks, and Microsoft Surface PCs** (*sorry, no Chromebooks please*)
- **Must be at least 12"** (*No larger than 15" recommended due to size and weight*)
- **Memory or RAM: 4GB minimum** (*more memory/RAM can make the PC slightly faster*)
- **Hard Drive: 128GB minimum - Solid-State Drive (SSD) or 7200RPM (SATA) ONLY** (*larger hard drives store more data/files/apps/pictures; Absolutely NO 4200RPM and 5400RPM hard drives)*
- **Chosen device MUST have a keyboard and a touchpad/mouse** (*touchscreen only is not acceptable*)
- **Minimum 6 Hours Battery Life: Please refer to PC manufacturer's documentation**
- **Protective Case/Cover/Sleeve, or backpack with padded laptop compartment** (*not just a standard backpack*)
- **Headphones**
- **MUST be fully charged before the start of the school day** (*charge every night*)

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's):

1. **Why can't my son or daughter use an Android based inexpensive tablet?**
    a. Each manufacturer likes to customize the look and feel of its Android tablet so that they do not conform to a standard set by a competitor. Subsequently, we cannot expect our teachers and staff to learn all of the different versions of the Android operating system that are out there, and expect them to teach their class effectively and without disruptions.
2. **Why can't my child use their phone or iPod touch?**
    a. Those devices do not meet our "BYOD Must Have Requirements", and typically have a screen so small that you cannot utilize those devices to experience the FULL potential of the assignment, project, website or lesson.
3. **How do I install the necessary Microsoft, Google Apps or e-books** (*online classroom books*) **on my child's device?**
    a. Technical Upgrade (*our IT provider*) will be onsite to assist your child in getting them up-and-running with the necessary apps, wireless access, and provide answers to any questions they may have.
4. **Will my child be able to charge/plug-in their device at school?**
    a. No. **Your child is responsible for charging his or her device AT HOME each and every night before the next school day** (*or the night before their teacher requires them to bring the device into class*).
5. **Will there be a secure area for my child to store their device?**
    a. Yes. We will have a secure storage box in each classroom, and the teachers will be locking their classrooms throughout the day when everyone has exited.
6. **Where is the best place to get my child's device repaired?**
    a. There are several options throughout our area that provide reasonable rates on computer and tablet repair. Best Buy's Geek Squad, Office Depot, OfficeMax, and one of our local favorites, The Computer Cellar on 9th Street in Durham (*see: https://www.TheComputerCellar.com*)
7. **Can my child share their device with other family members/siblings?**
    a. We realize the benefit of sharing devices within a household. However, **we recommend that this device remain exclusively with your BCA student and NOT be loaned or shared out to another person(s)**. Since it will contain much of your child's record of their homework, and be their digital notebook, too many things may happen if the device is put in someone else's hands (*accidental document deletion, viruses, etc.*)
8. **Can my child install other programs and games on their device?**
    a. No. Unless instructed to do so by their teacher, **we do NOT recommend using the limited space on your child's laptop for additional apps or games**. They can become too distracting for the student in class (*because they often say they JUST HAVE to get to the next level in their game by lunch time – wink, wink*). Also, they can drain the battery of the device prematurely. Please consider this device as another tool your child needs to complete their projects at school and learn (*just like any other required book or school supply*).

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Laptop Suggestions:

For links to recommended devices, please visit:

http://byod.bcacrusaders.org

Windows:

Dell Latitude E5450 14" ($329.99)
Specs: 8GB RAM, 256GB SSD

Dell Latitude E7470 14” ($387.01)
Specs: 8GB RAM, 25GB SSD

Lenovo Ideapad 330S 15.6” ($410)
Specs: 8GB RAM, 256GB SSD

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MAC:

Any MacBook, MacBook Air, or MacBook Pro **2016 or Newer** is BYOD Approved