



BYOD: Minimum requirements for IT devices, school year 2025/2026

1. Buying a new IT device – minimum requirements

Components and accessories	Recommendation
Operating system	Windows 11 (macOS 14.x or higher)
Screen	13-15 inches (devices with 15 inches or more are too heavy)
RAM	16 GB or more
Processor	Windows: Intel Core i5 (min. 9 th generation) or AMD Ryzen 5 (min. 3600XT) important: no ARM based processors (macOS: Apple M2 or better)
Hard disk	256 GB SSD or more
Battery operating time	6 hours or more
Keyboard	compulsory
Stylus	active stylus is compulsory
WLAN	compulsory
Bluetooth	compulsory
Loudspeaker and mic.	compulsory
Camera	compulsory
Video port	Internal HDMI or HDMI adaptor (from the same producer as the Laptop) compulsory
USB-C port	compulsory
Headset	compulsory

For working at home, you need an external hard disk of at least 500 GB for backup copies. A docking station for an external screen is highly recommended but it is not compulsory for working at school.

2. Working with an IT device you already own

Students may bring their existing IT device, even if it lacks stylus recognition. In that case, however, the computer has to be supplemented with a graphics tablet (recommended: WACOM Intuos Basic S BT at a cost of about CHF 60.-). If other minimum requirements are not met, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that the device can be properly used in class. It is necessary to check how all classroom requirements can be covered.

Devices that are tablets only are unsuitable for use at a 'Gymnasium' because programming (which is part of the IT curriculum) is not possible with them and they are not able to run all programmes. They can, however, be very well used as a supplement to a notebook.

3. Note for Mac users

It is of course possible to work with a MacBook (Apple). I pads are not permitted as the sole school device. There may be some restrictions with the MS Office programs (and also with other software). A graphics tablet must be connected in order to use a pen (recommendation: WACOM Intuos Basic S BT at a cost of about CHF 60.-).

4. Software

The programs required for classroom work (Office 365, Adobe Creative Cloud, subject-specific programs) are made available by the Canton of Basel-Stadt until completion of school curriculum. However, additional costs may be charged to the students for other single specific programs.

5. Costs

At upper secondary level, the canton of Basel-Stadt does not subsidize the purchasing of devices, just as it does not subsidize any other teaching materials. Therefore, the specifications for IT devices have been kept as low as possible.

6. Sicherheit und Haftung

The antivirus software of any IT device has to be kept up to date for use in class to protect the devices from harmful software and prevent the spreading of so-called malware.

Furthermore, it is the students' responsibility to protect their devices from damage and theft. In the event of damage, the school cannot accept liability. An extended warranty and insurance against theft are recommended for the IT devices.

7. Continuous and vocational educational paths

The requirements for IT devices in secondary vocational and continuous educational pathways may differ from these recommendations