# **MICROSOFT SCHOOL**

We are a Showcase School Nelson College for Girls has been selected by Microsoft to be Microsoft Showcase School. We have been selected for our excellence in transforming the learning environment to deliver a more personalised education to our students by using mobile and cloud technology.

The use of technology in and beyond the classroom facilitates an extensive learning process. Here at NCG we are proud to be a certified partner of Microsoft. We will work closely with them to lead innovation in education. Our vision is to give our students the skills they will need for their ongoing success at the completion of their secondary schooling.

2020-2021

Microsoft

### BYOD

As you will be aware Nelson College for Girls is a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) school and many of our learning activities from Year 7 to Year 13 require the use of a device. The specifications we look for in a device for use at school are that it is lightweight, reasonably fast, has good storage, good wifi, is robust and with a keyboard.

To assist parents in purchasing a device, we have teamed up with Noel Leeming to provide access to devices at a favourable price. Visit <u>https://www.noelleeming.co.nz/byod</u> and signup for great prices on BYOD devices.

Students are able to bring devices that they already own. However, a phone is not a satisfactory device for learning. If you need further information or help please contact the IT team at school or pop into any Noel Leeming store..

#### **DEVICES FOR LEARNING**

Students do require a device for learning at school and home. These should be brought to school every day. Some devices are better than others for doing school work. The best device will be a lightweight laptop, particularly one which has a touch screen for handwriting and drawing. A phone is NOT a suitable learning device in school.

#### SUPPORT AVAILABLE

We have a team of highly qualified IT Support Staff that are available to offer assistance everyday during school hours. The technicians are trained in Microsoft, Apple and Adobe products to ensure that our students get the support they need, regardless of the device type or issue.

Device	Good Points	Not so Good
Touch Screen/Write On Laptop	These offer the most functionality for learning.	The lower spec'ed devices may have some performance issues with specialist software
	Students can handwrite and draw on them.	applications.
	Are compatible with a wide range of software.	
	Can install the full MS Office suite.	
Windows Laptop	These offer good functionality	Some can be heavy to carry around.
	Are compatible with a wide range of	
	software.	The lower spec'ed devices may have some performance issues
	Can install the full MS Office suite.	with specialist software applications.
Apple Laptop	Good general functionality.	Tend to more expensive than a Windows laptop.
Chromebook	Costs slightly less than the entry level laptops.	All work needs to be done online.
	Tend to be very robust.	Can't download software onto the device (eg MS Office)
		Can't run the specialist software
Phone	Good for taking a quick note, photos of video.	Not suitable for learning in the classroom

PROS AND CONS OF DEVICES

If purchasing a device, we recommend purchasing it locally, so you get the additional service and support.

# SOFTWARE AVAILABLE

Our goal is to help prepare our students for "life after school", so all students are provided them access to industry standard software.

All students are provided with an account which will allow them to download the full suite of MS Office product onto 5 computers (including home computers) and the full suite of Adobe Creative Cloud applications. Other subject specific software is available to those students that require it.

### ACCESSING THE NCG NETWORK AND WIFI

When students start at Nelson College for Girls, they will be given a username and password. This username and password will give students access to the computers at school and access to the wifi network for their own devices.

If you need assistance regarding any of this information please ring the IT helpdesk on 03 548 3104 ext 809 or email sheridan.mackenzie@ncg.school.nz.

Regards Sheridan Mackenzie Director of E-Learning