

ICT

AT THORNBURY HIGH SCHOOL



ICT @ THS

Vision for digital technology and digital literacy at our school

Digital literacy refers to an individual’s ability to find, evaluate, and create clear information through writing and other mediums across various digital platforms. Digital literacy develops an individual’s grammar, composition, typing, and problem-solving skills. It builds students’ ability to use technology to produce written works, images, audio, and designs.

Digital literacy is developed through the use of stand-alone computers and mobile devices that access the internet and utilise social media. It does not replace traditional forms of literacy; instead, it builds upon the skills that form the foundation of traditional literacy.

A considered and measured approach is vital when implementing a digital literacy program. While there is broad support for technology in schools, it is essential to ensure clear goals are set across the curriculum. Computers are tools, just like textbooks and whiteboards; simply having the tool does not guarantee improved student outcomes.

At Thornbury High School, our focus on traditional forms of literacy and numeracy is supplemented and supported by digital platforms.

All Year 7–12 students are part of our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program. Devices are taken to the majority of classes. Thornbury High School believes that the appropriate use of digital technologies in the classroom allows students to develop valuable skills and knowledge, preparing them to thrive in a globalised and interconnected world.

SELECTING A LAPTOP

There are three options for families to source a device:

- 1. Current device owned by the family**
Some families may already own a laptop suitable for their child. A student would need to bring the device to school each day and use it outside of school hours to complete homework. The minimum requirements for such a device are outlined in the table below.
- 2. Purchase of a new device from a retailer**
Families may choose to purchase a device from a retailer. There are many suitable laptops available, and you may be able to negotiate a competitive price. If you choose this option, ensure the device is durable enough for school use (frequent opening and closing of the laptop, carrying on public transport, etc.).
- 3. Purchase of a new device through the Learning With Technologies portal**
The laptop purchase portal is available for families who wish to buy a device through the school’s recommended supplier. Repairs for most devices purchased under warranty through the portal can be arranged through the school’s ICT Team.

	Version	Browser	Memory	Storage	Screen Size
Windows	Windows 10/11	Google Chrome	8GB	256GB SSD	12.4"
Mac	MacOS 11+	Safari	8GB	256GB SSD	13"

Students intending to study Visual Arts subjects will require 16GB of memory.

To connect a device, students must follow the [provided instructions](#).

It is the device owner’s responsibility to ensure the device is in working order and free from viruses.

We offer a PaperCut Web Print portal that allows students to submit files for printing.

Linux devices are incompatible with THS infrastructure.

It is not recommended that students use a tablet, as a laptop is far more suitable for secondary school needs.

LAPTOP PURCHASE PORTAL

Thornbury High School has worked with [Learning With Technologies](#) to offer two different laptops that can be purchased via the portal.

However families can choose to purchase a suitable device from any retailer, or even use one they currently have at home.



- Lenovo 13w Yoga
- Acer TravelMate P214

Purchasing

- Purchasing of the laptops is all handled by Learning With Technologies, and the school receives no financial gain from your purchase

When going over the purchasing options you will notice there are a few extra's that you can choose from.

- Extended Warranties
- Laptop Bags
- Other accessories

We recommend all students carry their device in a suitable bag, which can be purchased from a range of retailers (including Kmart, OfficeWorks, etc).

Laptop Damage and Support

- In many (but not all) cases, laptops purchased through Learning With Technologies do not need to be taken to an external repairer when damage occurs. Our ICT team at Thornbury High School may be able to assist in diagnosing the issues and logging a ticket to the vendor directly.

- If you have purchased a device from another retailer, then you will have to return this device to that retailer for support and warranty claims. Thornbury High School is unfortunately unable to assist you with this process.

FAQs for purchasing a laptop

Can I purchase a laptop from anywhere else?

Yes you can purchase a device from another supplier, but we're not able to provide specific device recommendations.

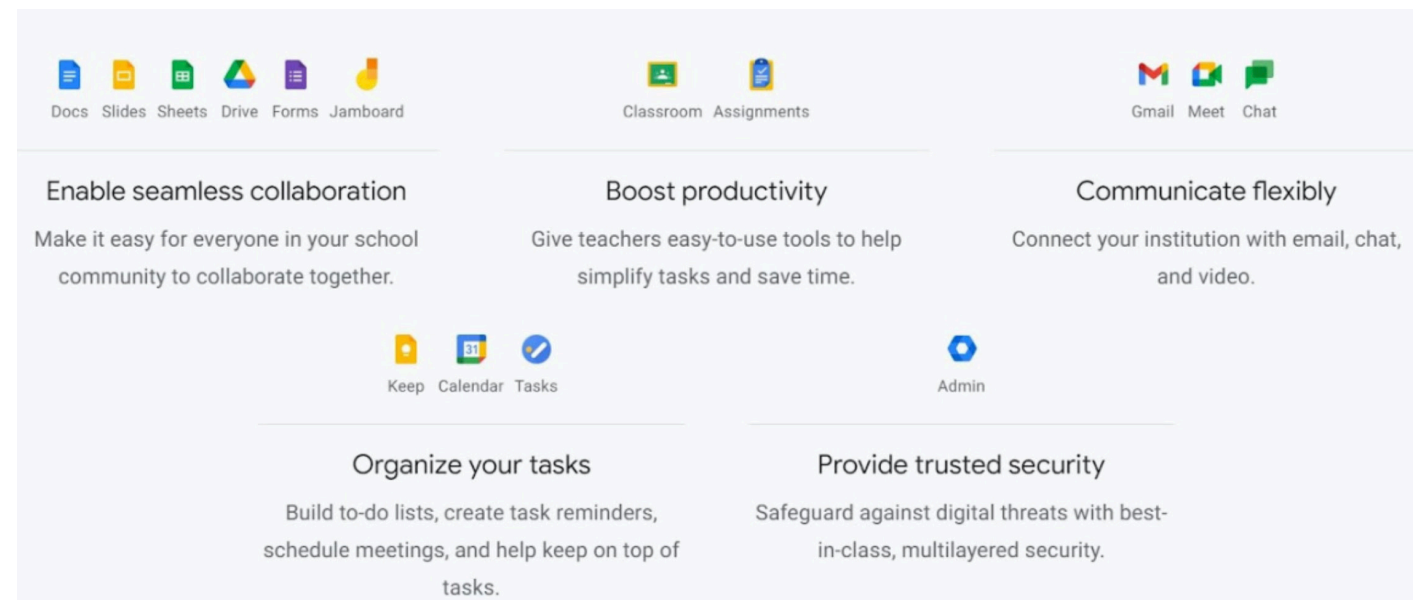
Minimum requirements are outlined [here](#)

GOOGLE WORKSPACE FOR EDUCATION

Thornbury High School utilises Google for Education across the school.

This allows students to access email, documents, virtual classes, calendars and more through any web-enabled device, without having to purchase expensive software.

Read the Google Workspace for Education Privacy Notice [here](#).



ICT ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

In order to enhance student learning, Thornbury High School is committed to the provision and use of appropriate digital technologies throughout the school. Digital devices can be used in a wide range of subjects to allow students to further develop their understanding of topics.

In addition to having to comply with the ICT Acceptable Use Policy, all users will have to comply with the Acceptable Use Policy for DET Information, Communications and Technology (ICT) Resources. The policy is available [here](#).

Definition of Digital Technologies

This agreement applies to digital technologies and social media tools including (although not limited to): school-owned ICT devices (e.g. desktops, laptops, iPads, printers, scanners), mobile phones, bring your own devices (BYODs) including Chromebooks and iPads, email, social networking sites (e.g. Facebook), blogs, microblogs (e.g. Twitter), Google Apps for Education, video and photo sharing websites (e.g. YouTube), and cameras.

Student Declaration

When using digital technologies, I agree to be a safe, responsible and ethical user at all times by:

- using ICT at the school for educational use only.
- protecting my privacy rights and those of other students by not giving out personal details including full names, telephone numbers, addresses and images.
- not bringing, storing, transferring, or displaying offensive or inappropriate material at school or on school-provided services.
- handling school-owned ICT devices with care and notifying a teacher if they are damaged or require attention.
- not interfering with network systems and security, the data of another user, or attempting to log into the network with a username or password of another student.
- not bringing to school or downloading unauthorised programs, including games.
- not using ICT to bully, defame, harass, spam or discredit any member of the school community or the broader community.
- not using cameras or personal devices to take photos or videos without the express permission of a staff member.

This ICT Acceptable Use Policy applies when a student is using any of the above digital technologies at school, at home, during school excursions, camps and extra-curricular activities.

This agreement will remain in effect for the duration of the student's enrolment at Thornbury High School.

FAQ

My child needs assistance logging in.

Your child can see the ICT Team during school hours for assistance. Alternatively, any THS staff member can log a ticket to be actioned on behalf of the student.

Can my child bring their own laptop to school and connect it to the school Wi-Fi?

Currently, only Year 9–12 students, and Year 7–8 students in the Concept program, bring a device to school and connect to the THS wireless network. Additionally, some students with special needs have been allowed to connect their laptops to the THS wireless network. This is done on a case-by-case basis and must be negotiated between the school and the family.

Does my child get a THS email account?

All THS students receive an email address in the format studentcode@thornburyhs.vic.edu.au For more information, [click here](#).

Do I need a bag for the device?

This is one of the best investments for your device. A quality bag will help protect the device while at school and while travelling to and from home. You can purchase a bag through a retailer of your choice.

Does my child need to bring their charger to school?

The school asks that students do not bring their chargers to school.

Will my child be able to leave their laptop at school to charge overnight?

Unfortunately, due to security issues, we are not able to provide facilities for students to store or charge their laptops at school overnight.

We're unable to purchase a device. Is there support available?

The program for Years 9 and 10 requires that all students have a laptop for use in all classes. As is the case across Victoria, the responsibility of providing a laptop falls to the family under the BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program.

The school acknowledges that some families may not be in a position to provide a laptop for their child. In those circumstances, the school has a limited number of borrowable laptops. For families in this situation, please contact the Year 9 or Year 10 Team.