



Dear Parents and Guardians

Catherine McAuley Westmead Years 7 - 12 MacBook Program

Catherine McAuley Westmead has a MacBook Program for Years 7 to 12 students. The MacBook Program will enable students to have access to reliable technology that will assist and support their learning. Having their own MacBook will ensure that students are using the same technology at school and home. Students will need to have their laptops prior to the start of Term 1. Information for purchasing the right laptop to meet your daughter's school needs follows.

Specifications:

Students will be able to use a MacBook Pro or MacBook Air, the model type and memory capacity is your choice. If you already have a MacBook Air or MacBook Pro which your daughter can use, this will be suitable provided that it has at least 8GB of RAM, 256GB of Storage and running at minimum “**MacOS BigSur 11**”. New MacBooks with the M1 and M2 chips are fully compatible for use at school.

To assist in minimising the cost of purchasing these devices, the Catholic School Parramatta Diocese has worked with their preferred suppliers of MacBooks, to set up a Parent Portal. These secure portals enable parents to purchase MacBook, extended warranties, bags and accessories at discount educational pricing. Also finance options are available. You can visit the parent portal using these links:

- CompNow <https://shop.compnow.com.au/school/parraceo>
- Apple <https://www.apple.com/au-hed/store> (available online or in person at Castle Hill or Penrith)

Parents are free to purchase a MacBook from any retailer such as Harvey Norman or JB Hi-Fi. We strongly recommend purchasing a protective case as well as the AppleCare+ Protection for any accidental damage during the ownership.

I appreciate that this will be a significant investment for families and thank you for your support. The anticipated life of your MacBook is at least four years providing your daughter with reliable technology for her start in secondary education. As always please contact the school with any questions or concerns on 9849 9100. We will also make available information on suitable MacBooks on our school website: <https://www.mcauleywestmead.catholic.edu.au/Enrolment/Bring-Your-Own-Device-Program>

Yours sincerely,

Jacky Zhou
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Westmead Catholic Community