Winston School Computing Requirements 2018-2019

Winston School has adopted Apple Mac Computers as the standard for all middle school students for the coming 2018-2019 school year. Below you will find general guidelines and recommendations to help you navigate through the complex decision of buying an Apple computer. If you have any questions regarding the purchase of an Apple system, please contact the Winston Technology Department for guidance, as they would be happy to discuss your needs. However, please be advised that there are no warranties, expressed or implied, for the recommendations provided, and parents/students are solely responsible for their own purchases.

We believe the best way to get a feel for a computer is to visit the Apple Store or other stores which carry Apple products to choose your system. We recommend the following *minimum hardware and software requirements* for a basic system for word processing, email, and browsing the web:

Apple Macintosh Minimum System Recommendations

- Operating System: Mac OS 10.13 (High Sierra)
- Processor: 2.5GHz dual-core Intel Core i7 processor or higher
    - Note: Intel i7 processor is recommended as this part is considered the "engine" of the system and more desirable than the i5 processor.
- RAM: 8GB 2133MHz memory
    - Note: In current models, this is no longer upgradable in the future so choosing 16GB may be desirable.
- Hard Disk: 256GB PCIe-based SSD
- AppleCare Protection Plan
    - Note: We highly recommend the purchase of AppleCare for any new system as this service extends the standard 1-year warranty to 3 years. It does not cover "accidental" damage such as liquid spills, drops, etc.

Software

- Antivirus
    - Note: If you already have an up-to-date antivirus/malware protection product installed, there is no need to replace it. If you do not already have an up-to-date product installed. Winston School recommends Norton Security for Mac (http://us.norton.com/norton-security-antivirus)
    - Winston School does not endorse or provide support for this product.

Misc.

- Computer Case
    - We recommend all Apple computers to be equipped with protective cases.

Apple Store Links

- Apple MacBook Pro: https://www.apple.com/shop/buy-mac/macbook-pro
- Apple MacBook Air: https://www.apple.com/shop/buy-mac/macbook-air