

Technology for Grade 5-12 Students

Westmount Charter Mid-High is a **Bring Your Own Device** (laptop or tablet) school for Grades 5 to 12. Personal devices are used to access resources, complete assignments and organize student's work and time. Learning activities may include researching information, producing documents, analyzing data, reading e-books, taking notes, collaborating with partners in group projects, scheduling events and demonstrating learning in new ways.

Students are permitted to bring whatever device best meets their learning needs. This may be a laptop, tablet or hybrid/convertible device.

Important note about tablets (Chromebooks, Ipads, etc):

- There are network issues with student-owned tablets and iPads; students cannot print from these devices at Westmount
- Tablets & iPads do work with Vretta (An Alberta Education Secure Browser used for Provincial Exams in Grades 6, 9 & 12), however, it is not an ideal interface.

Please note: **Google Suite for Education** is provided by the school, for each WCS student, which gives them access to productivity tools such as: their wcs-g email, word processing, presentation and more. These may be used during the school year.

Technology Requirements

Although we do not recommend specific models or types of devices, if you buy a computer or tablet for your child, we encourage you to buy a device that features:

- Wireless networking capability (the school provides filtered wireless access)
- A virus protection program (if purchasing a Windows or Macintosh laptop)
- An external keyboard if buying a tablet (either a separate keyboard or keyboard case)
- A minimum of 6 hours of use from one battery charge
- A full-functioning, current web browser
- A case that protects the device from damage if dropped
- Portability for carrying to and from school

Students should bring their devices to school daily, fully charged, as power outlets are limited and stretching cords in the classroom to plug them in creates a hazardous environment.

All students are required annually, to review and comply with the **Responsible Use of Technology Agreement**. It may be found on the Grade 5-12 Digital Life page on our website.

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