HOLY NAMES ACADEMY: Minimum and Recommended Specifications for Devices

What type of device is required?

All students are expected to have a primary digital device that has the full capabilities of a laptop computer, such as the Microsoft Surface Pro line (Surface 5 or newer) or the Apple MacBook line. Secondary devices such as the iPad, iPhone, Android tablet (Google), Chromebook, Nook, Kindle, or Microsoft Surface RT or Surface 2 will not meet our minimum specifications. **Important: Devices powered by Microsoft Windows 10 in S Mode operating system must be switched out of S Mode:** https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4456067/windows-10-switch-out-of-s-mode

What platform is recommended for the HNA Digital-Device Program?

Because our students use Microsoft Office 365 resources on a daily basis for Outlook e-mail, OneDrive cloud storage, and SharePoint access, we STRONGLY recommend the use of a Windows 10 device. From experience, we have found that most Windows 10 devices integrate well with our technology, and we have provided all faculty and many staff with Microsoft Surface Pro devices.

The **Mac OS** operating system has been successfully used by some students and staff, and will meet the recommended requirements for our program at this time.

Do I need to purchase a new device if my daughter already has a laptop computer or digital device?

If you have a laptop or digital device that satisfies our **recommended** specifications (see page 2), then your daughter should have a device compatible with the school's requirements for the near future.

If you have a device that satisfies the school's **minimum** specifications (see page 2), then your daughter's device should suffice for the 2019-2020 school year, but may need upgrading in subsequent years. Because of the speed of technology evolution, the school cannot guarantee that any device will continue to meet the minimum specifications throughout your daughter's years at HNA. The current specifications reflect available technology and our best effort at forecasting.

Once my daughter has a device that meets the school's specifications, what about software?

New devices must have virus protection (see below), but you need not acquire any other software prior to setting up the device for the HNA network. Early in the summer, the school sends all new families a **packet of detailed instructions** for preparing the device for use on the school network during the new school year. This will require 1 to 2 hours, depending on the speed of your home Internet connection. All students must allow time for set-up before the school year begins in late August.

In addition to a free installation of Microsoft Office 365 (including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote), this set-up for the HNA school network includes—at no cost to HNA families— a variety of software required for accessing and working on the HNA network.

Virus protection: Windows 10 devices ship with Windows Defender Antivirus software installed. Mac OS devices do *not* automatically include antivirus software; we have seen an increasing number of virus incidents on Mac devices.

See page 2 for specifications and recommendations.

RECOMMENDED Device Specifications (based on current available technology)
The digital device must have the capabilities of a fully functioning laptop computer. In addition, it should have the following features:
- Keyboard
- Processor: Intel 7th-generation or greater i-Series processor or Intel Core M processor
- RAM: 8 GB
- Storage: 256 GB (SSD drives preferred)
- Screen resolution 1920 x 1080 or greater
- Battery life: 6+ hours
- Antivirus software: required
- Microsoft Office 365 (currently free for HNA students)

MINIMUM Device Specifications (device less likely to meet requirements for four years)
The digital device must have the capabilities of a fully functioning laptop computer. In addition, it must have the following features:
- Keyboard
- Processor: Intel 5th-generation i-Series processors, Intel Core M processor or equivalent
- RAM: 4 GB
- Battery life: 5 hours
- Storage: 128 GB
- Screen resolution 1920 x 1080 or greater
- Antivirus software: required
- Microsoft Office 365 (currently free for HNA students)

Is there a recommendation if I am purchasing a new device?
We urge you to do your own research, just as you would for any significant technology purchase. In addition to the following suggestions, there are other options.

> <u>Windows Option</u>: The Microsoft **Surface Pro line (Surface 5 or higher)** with Type Cover is the device HNA provides to its teachers. Students can get a discount by purchasing directly from the [Microsoft Store (University Village)](.).

> <u>Apple Option</u>: **Current MacBook product line**.

> <u>Other Possibilities:</u> The following computer hardware manufacturers all offer digital devices that will meet the school's recommended specifications; be sure to verify that the particular model you select meets the HNA **Recommended Device Specifications** listed above. There are many options on the market, and this is only a list of suggestions:
> - Surface Laptop 2 or Surface Book 2
> - Surface Go (Good entry-level device with some limitations: battery life about 5 hours; HNA students in courses with high processor demand, such as art and computer science, have found performance slow. For general, less-demanding classroom use, students found performance fine. Ships as a Windows 10S device, so it must be switched out of S Mode.)
> - Dell
> - Lenovo
> - Toshiba
> - HP

> **Other Features and Considerations:** • Touchscreen and stylus capability
> • Protective case and/or backpack • Warranty and accidental-damage protection