



## Holy Names Academy Device Specifications

### 1. *What type of device is required?*

- **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 Pro 9 or newer, Surface Laptop 5, Surface Laptop Studio 2) or the current Apple MacBook line.
  - **Important:** Devices powered by Microsoft Windows 11 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>
- **Not recommended or supported by HNA's IT Department:** Secondary devices such as the iPad, iPhone, Android tablet (Google), Chromebook, Nook, Kindle, Microsoft Surface RT, Surface 3 or older, Surface Go 2 or older, or Surface Pro X will *not* meet our minimum specifications.
  - **Important:** These secondary devices do not support all the programs required during a student's four years at HNA. HNA's IT Department cannot provide technical support for these secondary devices.

### 2. *What platform is recommended for the HNA Digital-Device Program?*

Because our students use Microsoft Office 365 resources every day for Outlook email, OneDrive for cloud storage, and OneNote and Teams for collaboration, we **STRONGLY** recommend the use of a **Windows 11** device. From experience, we have found that most Windows 11 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 students and will meet the recommended requirements for our program at this time.

### 3. *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 2024-2025 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.

### 4. *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 emails all new families a packet of detailed instructions for preparing the device for use on the school network during the new



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school year. This will require about one hour, 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 required:** Windows 11 devices ship with Windows Defender Antivirus software installed. Mac users will need to purchase virus protection. We have seen an increasing number of virus incidents on Mac devices.

### 5. *What are the recommended and minimum device specifications?*

- **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 12th-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 10th-generation i-Series processors, Intel Core M processor or equivalent
  - RAM: 4 GB is minimum, but 8 GB is preferred
  - Battery life: 5 hours
  - Storage: 128 GB (SSD drives preferred)
  - Screen resolution 1920 x 1080 or greater
  - Antivirus software: required
  - Microsoft Office 365 (currently free for HNA students)
- **ADDITIONAL Requirement:** The student must have Internet access at home, such as Comcast, CenturyLink, or similar provider. There is no requirement for cellular service.



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### **6. *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.

- **Windows Option:** The Microsoft Surface Pro line (Surface Pro 9 or newer, Surface Laptop 5, or Surface Laptop Studio) with Type Cover is the device HNA provides to its teachers. Students can get a discount by purchasing directly from the Microsoft Online Store.
- **Apple Option:** Current MacBook product line.
- **Other Possibilities:** 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:
  - Dell
  - Lenovo
  - Toshiba
  - HP
- **Other Features and Considerations:**
  - Touchscreen and stylus capability
  - Protective case and/or backpack
  - Warranty and accidental-damage protection