



## MS/HS Student Technology Requirements, 2021-2022

Headwaters School is a Bring-Your-Own-Device school. Students will use a laptop computer to work on assignments and to view communications from their guides. **Students are required to have a charged laptop and charger with them every day.** The IT department may have a few loaner devices for those who forget their devices. These will be available on a first come, first serve basis and must be returned at the end of the day unless special arrangements have been made.

While a Macbook is not necessary for students, Headwaters has historically been primarily a Mac environment, and approximately 70% of students and 90% of staff use some version of iMac or Macbook. Both computer labs also contain iMacs and the projectors in the classrooms have adaptors that will connect to most Macbooks.

### Device Recommendations & Requirements

#### Laptop Recommended Requirements:

- Apple Macbook running OS X 10.14 or higher (Mojave, Catalina, Big Sur)\*
- PC running Windows 10 v1909 or later (ideally with an HDMI port).
- We recommend at least 8GB RAM

#### Chromebook:

- A Chromebook with an HDMI port may be adequate for a MS student but if you choose this option, make sure you understand the capabilities of a Chromebook. Chromebooks operate on the Chrome OS and pair well with the Google suite of applications used by all Headwaters students. This option is less expensive, but most software cannot be installed locally to the device.
- If you have a student who will be taking IB Music, Photography, and/or Film courses, a Chromebook will not support the software that will be used for those classes. There will be computers in the Mac labs which have this software installed but high schoolers may be required to work on these projects at home so please keep this in mind. Middle schoolers will not be required to work on these projects at home but some may choose to do so.

#### Operating Systems

- Students using older versions of the operating systems listed above, Linux or other alternative operating systems may not be supported by the technology team.

#### On Campus Mac Lab

- Students who do not have a Macbook Pro can spend free time (free periods, lunch, after school) in the Mac Lab editing with our professional software programs (Adobe Premiere CC, Audition, PhotoShop, and AfterEffects)

### Support

We will be offering back-to-school tech support on campus at the beginning of the school year. During this time we will help students get connected to the network and Blackbaud, as well as help them set up their Headwaters Google accounts. More information will be sent out over the summer. During the school year the Headwaters technology team will also provide limited support to students having issues with their machines.

### Headwaters at Home Virtual Learning

In the event of virtual learning students will also need access to the internet at home. If internet access or a device is a problem, please reach out to [it@headwaters.org](mailto:it@headwaters.org) for support.

If you have any questions about information contained  
in this document, please email [it@headwaters.org](mailto:it@headwaters.org).

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\*It is free to upgrade a Mac to a newer Operating System (OS), but you will need to make sure your machine meets the requirements



## **MS/HS Student Technology Requirements for Electives & Classes 2021-2022**

### **Middle School Electives**

Middle School Photography students will need:

- ☐ Camera EITHER :
  - ☐ Cell phone
  - ☐ point-and-shoot digital camera with at least 8 megapixels + memory card
  - ☐ DSLR camera with at least 8 megapixels + memory card
- ☐ Recommended Mac or PC laptop

MS Design 1 and MS Coding & Robotics students will need:

- ☐ Mac or PC. *Chromebooks/iPads will not run the necessary programs.*

### **High School Classes and Electives**

High School Photography Students will need:

- ☐ Point-and-shoot digital or DSLR camera
- ☐ Memory card
- ☐ Mac or PC laptop. *Chromebooks/iPads will not run the necessary programs.*

Film Students are recommended to bring

- ☐ Recommended: a DSLR HD camera that allows changeable lenses, but not required. *Canon Rebel T3i, t4i, t5i, 60d, 70d, 5d or 7d.*
- ☐ Memory card
- ☐ Recommended: Macbook Pro. *However, students will have access to Mac Lab with editing software.*

IB Music

- ☐ Mac or PC laptop. *Chromebooks/iPads will not run the necessary programs.*

If you need additional assistance, please reach out to [it@headwaters.org](mailto:it@headwaters.org).