



## Year 4 Macbook Program 2017

Dear families of Year 4 students in 2017,

Earlier this term, a note was sent home informing parents that Ashdale Primary will continue the parent funded MacBook program with the incoming Year 4 students beginning Term 1, 2017. The note also contained an invitation for you to attend a parent night that was held at Ashdale Secondary College in Week 2 of this term where you could hear about the program and have questions answered. A Macbook demonstration was also advertised to interested parents and this was held last week.

Thank you to the parents who have expressed their interest in the program and are keen to begin the purchasing of their laptop. Winthrop did close the purchasing Portal while they waited for the announcement from Apple regarding the model of laptop offered for the education pricing. The Macbook Air 11" laptop has been discontinued and the Macbook Air 13" is now the device offered for the 1-1 Program. The portal to purchase the Macbook Air 13" laptop through Winthrop Australia will be open by Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November and you can order at any time through this portal. The MacBook from Winthrop comes with the standard 1 year manufacturer's warranty and then an additional year's warranty under Australian consumer law. You will notice on the website that Winthrop is offering the 3 year AppleCare Warranty as an optional extra at a discounted rate to parents.

The website for purchasing a MacBook through Winthrop is:

<https://portal.winaust.com.au/a/ashdale-ps>

While the Macbook Air 11" was slightly smaller, the 13" has the benefit of having a slightly larger screen. It is still very light and many of our students have chosen this size over the 11" previously and have found it just as portable. Some Apple resellers may have remaining stock of the MacAir 11" and be offering special deals due to it being discontinued, it is worthwhile to always "shop" around for the best deal for you. Whilst it doesn't matter to the school where you purchase the laptop, our partnership with Winthrop is to ensure the best price for the device offered and to have the best service option for parents through them.

A benefit to purchasing through Winthrop is that they do service the MacBooks that are bought from them through our school, so if there is a warranty issue, they will send a technician out to the school to resolve the problem. If the MacBook is purchased elsewhere, you would need to take it to a store to be looked at.

Parents are reminded that the program is optional and if their child does not participate in the program they will have a level of access to school owned devices during school time.

If you have questions regarding the purchase through the portal or other vendors, please contact the school for clarification.

### **Optional Accessories**

Parents may purchase optional items through Winthrop, online or any retail store. Of the optional accessories a carry case is considered essential.

### **Additional**

A portable hard drive is also required for backing up. This is an essential item. It can be purchased from retail stores such as Officeworks, Dick Smith or Harvey Norman. A 500GB or a 1T is fine. Prices can range from \$70 - \$100. It does not have to be Mac compatible, as the mac will reformat it when preparing it for the initial backup.

### **Insurance**

Protecsure has insurance that is specifically for laptops that are taken outside the home. This may be required if your Home and Contents Insurance does not cover the MacBook outside of the home. Parents are advised to check their policies. School insurance does not cover student laptops.

Protecsure Insurance is available through the Winthrop Portal.

Ordering process:

- the portal that is used for ordering usually closes over the Xmas/New Year period
- machines can be delivered to the school or your home
- If the machine is delivered to school, you will be notified to come and collect it.
- the machines can be used over the holidays and will have school software and settings put on at the beginning of next year.

There will be more information about the 1:1 MacBook Program in newsletters and information can also be found on our website. [www.ashdaleps.wa.edu.au](http://www.ashdaleps.wa.edu.au)

Thank you very much for your support with this exciting program.

Sincerely,  
Randal Hoft  
Deputy Principal