



March 2023

Dear New Upper School Community Members,

The Derryfield Upper School employs a 1-1 “Device of Choice” program. The “Device of Choice” approach allows flexibility and choice with regard to preferred devices and allows most of our incoming students to continue using the device they currently own. Students are expected to have their devices in school with them every day and will use them frequently, though not all the time. Different courses, lessons, and assignments call for different approaches, and technology is used when it facilitates the goals of the course and enhances student learning, not simply as a general rule.

This Upper School 1-1 program impacts numerous areas, including the access to and delivery of material, the exchange of work and feedback, the development of organizational skills, and the cultivation of essential 21st century technological skills.

Our technology leaders have worked to define “acceptable” devices under this program, no easy task given how fast technology changes. Here are the guidelines and suggestions for acceptable devices:

- An acceptable device for an upper school student should allow the student to connect to our Wi-Fi network, create, edit, and share documents, videos, and images. It should have the ability to store files on the device or in the cloud. Laptops should have an 11” display or larger.
- Supported operating systems: OS X 11 (Big Sur) or newer, Windows 10 Pro or newer (Windows Home does not work well in our network and should be avoided).
- Devices that do not fit this program include: Smartphones, iPads, iPad mini, iPod Touch, Chromebooks, Android and Windows tablets and similar devices because of their limited screen size, inability to install software and the need for extensive typing.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Jonathan DeYoung, IT Manager, at jdeyoung@derryfield.org or Dylan Amazeen, Technology Support Specialist, at damazeen@derryfield.org. We appreciate your support in helping us deliver a dynamic, engaging learning experience to our bright, motivated students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Reina Stimpson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Reina Stimpson, Head of Upper School