



High School Prep Laptop Program

Holy Trinity: An Episcopal School is proud to continue the inclusion of technology and inquiry learning activities into our academic programming. As of 2019, all High School Prep students are required to participate in our laptop program.* Keeping our students comfortable with navigating digital learning environments is key students' development of 21st Century Learning Skills necessary for success and achievement in high school for which our alumni are known.

The designated use of one device per student, or 1:1, has allowed our teachers and staff to offer relevant, timely, and engaging resources and activities. Access to online resources and content, such as Blackbaud, Microsoft Office 365, ThinkCentral, and Pearson Realize ensures that students can work collaboratively and beyond the walls of their classrooms. Students not only demonstrate a mastery of the three Rs (Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic), but also the four Cs of a 21st Century learner (Critical Thinking, Creativity, Collaboration, and Communication). Students are no longer expected to sit and listen, but to problem-solve and communicate what they have learned. The computer becomes another tool for learning, just as important as the pen and pencil or the paper and physical textbook. This model has not only boosted student engagement, but also has exposed our teachers to new instructional strategies and concepts that promote critical thinking skills. Furthermore, the existence of this program has allowed students and faculty to seamlessly transition to virtual learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Parents and families also benefit from a hybrid learning experience, since they can be more directly involved in their students' academic performance. Our assignment and grade portal, Blackbaud, allows parents to review their child(ren)'s work and identify areas of strength and those in need of growth. We have also seen an improvement in communication between parents and teachers, strengthening our triangle with every passing year.

As a part of the 1:1 Program, students will receive their Holy Trinity username and password along with their device at the beginning of the school year. This device will come preloaded with the programs students most commonly use in each of their classes as well as staff-controlled management software. This allows faculty to develop a blended learning environment while assisting students with staying on task during online activities. The laptop may not be altered in any way, including adding password protected materials or other content. To cover the cost of repairs throughout the school year, the cost to participate in this program is \$400.00 and is mandatory for all students enrolled in the laptop program. Should the device need repair, students will exchange it for a loaner device. Students will receive their original device once it is repaired. In the rare instance that a device is damaged beyond normal wear-and-tear, families will be responsible for the replacement of that device.

*For 2021-2022, 8th graders will still be permitted to bring their own laptop.