

Sport & Other Features

IT / Computing



COMPUTER INFRASTRUCTURE

Information Technology (IT) is one of the many strengths of Westminster School. Utilising our extensive IT infrastructure and network, IT forms an integrated part of all learning at Westminster.

Through our focus on Information Technology, we offer:

- a substantial network of computers
- a superior, high capacity, fast internet connection
- a low ratio of computers to students
- a highly developed remote access solution
- software to cover nearly every possible educational tool
- specialist teaching at all levels
- teacher developmental support in IT application

The students become confident computer users without necessarily choosing IT as a subject because it is integrated into every subject and everyday school life.

Information Technology is offered as a core component of the curriculum in all year levels in the Primary School (Reception to Year 7) and Years 8 and 9 in the Senior School, after which students may elect to pursue it as a formal study.

In the Senior School the ratio of computers to students is 2.2 to 1, nearly one computer between every two students. Our 600-plus computers all feature contemporary hardware and are never more than three years old. Our annual replenishment program ensures students have ready access to modern, reliable and highly capable IT equipment.

Extensive infrastructure also ensures there are whole classrooms of computers available for non-computing subjects. For example, a History or Mathematics teacher can book one of the four computer labs in the Senior School, so each student has access to their own computer. It also means faculties are able to have a number of computers embedded into their area, for example, each of the Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Design and Technology faculties has a computer precinct within their specialist learning areas.

SUITE OF SOFTWARE

Westminster's software suite on WestNet (the School's intranet) comprises more than 100 software applications. Software availability covers nearly every possible educational tool including:

- multimedia and music software in our keyboard lab
- CAD software in our technology precinct
- internet and email access
- a large range of learning materials for students available on-campus or remotely through our intranet

PROVISION OF REMOTE ACCESS

Laptops are heavy, can get lost or dropped, are expensive and are not ideally suited to all students of school age. Westminster School operates with a highly developed remote access solution, obviating the need for laptops. Students and parents can simply log on to the School's network from home and, via a secure password, can access the network and many of its features, including their own academic files. Homework can be set on-line using this access.

TEACHING AND CURRICULUM

Teachers at Westminster School are supported in their own IT development so students can be confident they are learning from up-to-date professionals with the expertise and confidence to use computing technology, software and infrastructure relevant to their subject area. This optimises student learning. The Preparatory School features a separate computer lab, computers in every classroom, a specialist Junior Primary computing teacher and a specialist Senior Primary computing teacher. Topics taught in the class are also integrated into the computer curriculum, ensuring that IT learning becomes an integral part of everyday learning.

