BMS minimum Windows or Mac laptop specification for Autumn 2024

In the context of studying at BMS, the expectation is that you should be able to access the following basic IT requirements:

1. Access to the internet at your place of residence. If you are staying in University halls this will be included in your charges.
2. We strongly recommend that all incoming BMS students ensure that they bring a suitable laptop computer to enable them to make the most of the learning opportunities at BMS and their NHS placements throughout the full 5 years of the course. You will need access to a laptop for session preparation, individual and group study, in-class teaching sessions, coursework, and many of your assessments throughout the entire 5-year MBBS.[1] A tablet alone **will not** be sufficient.

We recommend a **minimum** Windows or Mac specification of:

Current i5 CPU (or Apple M1, M2 or M3 series) with:

- *Running Windows 10, Windows 11 or MacOS 12 or later*
- *8Gb RAM*
- *13" screen*
- *256Gb Hard Drive (SSD)*
- *Wi-Fi capable*
- *Full HD screen as a minimum (1080p)*
- *Built-in webcam (720p minimum) and speakers*
- *At least one or two USB sockets*
- *Good battery life (e.g. greater than 4 hours)*
- *An up-to-date Antivirus programme in order to connect to the Brunel network*
- *a DVD drive is **not** essential*

Please note:

- Brunel University requires both up-to-date and working Antivirus and Antispyware to be installed and running on all devices connected to the university network[2]
- A lower specification may be used but it may **not** prove suitable for all needs
- **Chromebooks:** we **do not** recommend or support Chromebooks, they do not work reliably with some of the University's systems.[3]
- **Linux: w**e **do not** recommend or support Linux/Unix based systems
- **Tablets** (whether iOS or Android): a tablet alone will **not** be sufficient

As a BMS student the university will provide the basic software packages you need for personal use free of charge whilst you remain a student. These include:

- Microsoft Office Microsoft Office365 including OneDrive cloud storage (for Windows, Mac and on your mobile device/smartphone)
- Brightspace Pulse App (iOS & Android) for mobile/smartphone access to the BMS Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)
- Statistics software

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[1] See BMS': Required Equipment
[2] See Brunel University's: Security Requirements for all devices connecting at Brunel:
[3] See Brunel University's: Recommendations for a personal device