

## **Department of Veterinary Medicine**

### **Accessing online resources – student laptops**

The following information is provided from advice given by the IT team within the Department.

### **Machine Specifications**

Keeping your devices up-to-date with antivirus software is a requirement for use of the University's data network. All devices should be fully updated and running a current antimalware/antivirus program. McAfee is available free from the UIS, if a device does not have a fully paid subscription to an antivirus program.

For laptops - they should be running the latest version of the OS, at the time of writing, the latest Windows OS is 21H1, and the latest Mac OS is Big Sur, 11.5.2

Tablets should be also be running the latest OS, at the time of writing, for Android tablet's this is Android 11, and for iPads it's 14.7.1.

### **Minimum Specs**

We recommend the following specs as minimum for any laptop you buy.

**Windows:** Intel i5 processor, 16GB RAM, 512GB SSD storage

**Apple:** Apple M1 chip, 16GB RAM, 512GB SSD storage

Students will not be able to get a University discount to purchase a personal laptop. Department owned devices may be bought from a research grant for use on a project, for this the individual would need to speak to their supervisor and/or Principle Investigator.

### **File types**

Most content uploaded to Moodle will use the following standard formats:

MS Office Formats – doc(x), xls(x), ppt(x)

MP4 Video

PDF Documents

### **Browsers**

Moodle is designed to work with all browsers. There may be times when a browser update causes incompatibilities with Moodle.

Users should install an alternative browser such as Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox to their device as well as the inbuilt browser (most commonly, Microsoft Edge or Safari).

### **Data size**

Some resources on Moodle, such as videos and some PowerPoint presentations, can be 500MB+ so be aware when accessing on mobile data connections.

### **Media Player**

If the inbuilt media player on the device cannot play a media file, an alternative media player can be useful. One recommendation is VLC Media Player