

GUIDELINES ON TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students use digital technologies to access information, course materials and support, communicate with the college and with peers, prepare and submit assignments. Below is some advice about what you will need.

Essential

Internet access

You will need some internet access in order to: (i) access communications via the email system, (ii) use the Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle) to access course materials support and submission of assessments, (iii) use the online library resources. Your DkIT username and password will allow you to logon to the Wireless network on Campus 'Eduroam'. See [Wireless Access | Dundalk Institute of Technology \(dkit.ie\)](https://www.dkit.ie/wireless-access)

It is very important that you check your DkIT email regularly. This is the main channel of communication with DkIT and your lecturers – important information about assessments, timetables, supports, classes and so on will be sent to your DkIT email. You can login here [Dundalk IT Webmail \(dkit.ie\)](https://www.dkit.ie/webmail)

A suitable device.

You will need access to a device that can run Microsoft Office (i.e. Word, Excel etc.) or equivalent programmes, so that you can complete coursework and written assignments. Ideally you will have access to a device with a microphone and webcam for participation in online classes and online meetings with students and staff. A relatively modern desktop computer or laptop would be ideal. If you are using a Tablet it is essential that it has a keyboard, but it may have limitations running some software. A laptop or PC is preferable. DkIT uses the Windows 10 Operating system. If you are buying a laptop we recommend that you choose one with a Windows 10 Home or Windows 10 Pro operating system and NOT Windows 10 S (this only installs applications from the Windows store and won't install Office).

Software

Software for students will be provided by DkIT but extra optional software for your system can be purchased at a discount if you choose : <https://dkit.onthehub.com> Some programmes may have additional requirements to run specific software (e.g. computing and games). Your programme team will notify you about this.

Desirable

A headset. Preferably USB type for superior quality. Avoid Dual 3.5mm types unless you are certain they will work with your system. Click [Educational Headphone Plug Types - Headsets Direct](#) for more information on other connection types to ensure compatibility with your device. A headset is not essential but is useful as it improves sound quality when interacting online and will allow you to listen to recorded classes etc. in shared spaces.

Support available

The institute has a limited number of laptop devices for loan to students from nationally recognised target groups (students with a disability, mature students, members of the Traveller community, students from an ethnic minority, students from a background of socio-economic disadvantage etc.). These devices are funded as part of the HEA (Higher Education Authority) package of COVID

supports for further and higher education. The devices will remain the property of the institute. Eligibility is on a needs basis, as prioritised by the institute. The application process will seek appropriate documentation to prioritise applications, including proof of parent's income, as appropriate, and receipts for costs such as rent, bills or childcare. For more information about the Laptop Loan Initiative at www.dkit.ie/student-life/student-services/student-finance.html#laptop-loan-scheme

Short term loan of a limited number of laptops through our lapsafe dispenser system will also be provided to students.