Why buy the recommended model?
For 2013, the Trinity strongly recommends purchasing the Fujitsu STYLISTIC Q702 tablet computer through Computelec. We believe that this tablet computer is well priced, has a more than adequate specification (Intel Core i5-3427U Processor up to 2.80GHz, 4GB RAM, 256GB SSD) for the uses to which it will be put, and is well covered against mishaps. Our service level agreement with Computelec ensures rapid resolution of warranty and accident repairs. There are advantages for both students and teachers in minimising the variety of makes and models within any classroom. Our own Technical Service Centre is geared towards providing software maintenance on the recommended model.

School Purchase Program implications
The school is transitioning to a new method of purchasing computers for use at school. This method sees the school buy computers on behalf of parents and then recoup costs through an annual computer levy. Through the transition to school purchase (2011-2014), the school will offer an optional buy-back amount for machines less than 3 years old purchased through the school program. **Machines purchased outside the recommended program after 10/11/2010 will not be eligible for the buy-back offer.**

Further information about the School Purchase Program can be found here: [www.trinity.vic.edu.au/schoolpurchase](http://www.trinity.vic.edu.au/schoolpurchase)

For those still keen on exploring other alternatives, the following points should be considered carefully:

Can I buy it cheaper elsewhere?
Fujitsu has a reputation for producing high quality machines. The recommended machines are Fujitsu tablets (as opposed to a conventional notebook), are lightweight and small in size (Slate: 850g, Slate with keyboard dock: 1.7kg). This is a deliberate choice based on our experience over many years (since 1993) with computers used in a school situation. Small machines are generally a little more expensive, but have been found to be far more practical in terms of portability and ease of use in the classroom. The price quoted includes a full 3 year manufacturer’s warranty and ComShield (insurance) protection for damage or loss, and the service agreement guarantees rapid return of the machine to the student should a problem occur. Most "Green Guide" prices are for much larger and heavier machines and do not include service arrangements or damage cover. Where these are available, none approach a similar level of service.

ComShield is only available for computers purchased from Computelec.

The School itself is not able to insure notebooks/tablets owned by students (legally the School is deemed to have no **insurable interest** in the machines), **nor does the School accept any responsibility for loss or damage to students’ computers.**

You should be particularly careful about assuming that a notebook/tablet used by a student at school is adequately covered by any existing policy you may have. It has been our experience that home contents policies generally **do not** cover damage to computers at school, nor loss or theft occurring away from home.

The School requires that all notebook/tablet computers, other than those purchased through our recommended channels, be adequately insured.
Why not a Mac?
Trinity has had a successful notebook/tablet computer program since 1993 in a Windows environment. All of our expertise and experience are in this environment and with this hardware. We have looked closely at the developments Apple has made over the years and the School has purchased a number of Apple MacBooks, iPads and iPhones for testing. We understand the appeal of these sleek, well-made, well-marketed devices. We continue to use PC rather than switching to Mac because from our experience with Apple devices, they offer no compelling educational reason to change our entire environment, re-purchase equivalent software (much of our software is licensed for PC) and hardware and re-train our technical and teaching staff.

Software
The School’s software image for the recommended model is built and tested at the end of the preceding year, and is delivered pre-installed on all new machines purchased from Computelec.

The software image will not work on other brands or models of machine without considerable work which, for reasons of both cost and time, the School cannot undertake. Under the terms of educational software licences, the School is not permitted to distribute disks containing the software to students or parents. The School’s Technical Centre provides software support for the recommended computer, but the School does not have the resources to undertake the loading or repair of software on other machines. Owners of machines purchased outside the system are required to install and configure educational software from the network themselves. As with all computers new to the School, a software levy will apply to non standard machines to cover licensing and network resources. Microsoft Office 2010 and Adobe CS6 are not available for download via the network and, for non standard machines, will need to be sourced legally elsewhere.

Service
The key to successful use of computers in schools is in the service. Productive use of computers in education is dependent on each student having his computer available in class whenever he needs it. It is essential that when a fault occurs, repairs are carried out as quickly as possible and the computer is returned to the student without delay. Repairs by Computelec are done on site each school day. This is a level of service well above that which most other commercial repair centres can achieve.

Computelec is contracted to carry out repairs on all current Toshiba and Fujitsu computers only, and are unable to service or supply parts for other makes or models.

Configuration and sign off of non standard computers
In order to connect to the School’s network, non standard computers must fit particular specifications. Parents are also required to sign off their acceptance of conditions relating to service and insurance. A form detailing these matters is available from the Technical Centre. If you are contemplating buying outside the program, please obtain a copy and read it carefully before proceeding.

Your Son
Our interest in this process is your son’s education. We strongly believe that in this modern age, computers are just as essential in helping our students get the best from their educational experiences as they are in most walks of life.

Our key objective is to provide simple, effective and efficient computer support systems to ensure machines are in the hands of students as much as possible.