

## Hardware Requirements

1. You must be comfortable and confident with basic computer tasks such as email, attaching files, using the internet, word processing, managing your hard drive.
2. A resource person to help you with basic computer help, if you get stuck.
3. Have a computer system in your own home.
4. PCs must have an XP or Vista operating system. Mac operating system 9.1+ and OS X
5. Computers should have at least 1 GB RAM, and sufficient hard drive space to hold files.
6. Broadband Internet connection such as Cable/DSL/Satellite. A minimums for proper performance are a 0.4 Mbps download speed, 0.3 Mbps upload speed and a maximum ping of 300 ms
  - Test the speed of your connection [here](#).
7. Speaker and/or headphones
8. Scanner and/or printer may be needed for some courses and is required for all **Math and Physics** courses.

## Software and Plugins Needed

1. An email address that is appropriate for school use.
2. Our system is best viewed through a modern web browser, such as [Mozilla Firefox](#), Google Chrome, Internet Explorer 8 and other similar browsers. Some features may not work with all browsers such as Safari, Opera or Netscape.
3. Many of the documents that are used in courses use [Adobe Acrobat](#) format (.pdf).
4. Some of the documents that are used in courses will be from the Microsoft Office suite.
5. We accept documents saved as .doc (MS Word), .ppt (MS PowerPoint), .odt (Open Office), .pdf (Adobe Acrobat), or as .rtf (Rich Text Format)
  - **If you don't have MS Office**, [Open Office](#) allows you to view and edit MS Office files, and is available free for Windows and for non-Windows computers.
6. Many courses have multimedia animations created using [Adobe Flash](#) that require you to have the Flash Plugin on your computer. (You probably have it already if you have a modern machine.) Online **Math 10, 11 and 12** courses require the ability to run Flash animation.
7. In order to view some animations you will need [Adobe Shockwave](#)
8. Most courses will require the use of a media player: [Windows Media Player](#), [Quicktime](#) or [Real Player](#). You should make sure you have the latest version of your media player.
9. Some courses require the most recent version of [Java](#) installed.