

IT specifications – Guide for students

We have included below some suggestions for students to consider in preparing for the online delivery of some elements of the course at Bristol Old Vic Theatre School in 2020/21.

To be able to get the best experience from online classes and rehearsals we strongly advise that you access Zoom on a computer/laptop rather than a mobile device.

Minimum requirements:

- 13 inch screen or bigger
- Mac or Windows, but ideally not Chromebook or Linux as software options will be limited
- 3.6 Ghz dual core processor (Intel i3 or i5). Quad- or more-core processors may spec a slower speed (eg; 2.5Ghz i7 etc) but this will be fine
- 4gb of RAM
- Have 50Gb free space on your hard disk or an external drive/USB flashdrive
- Integrated HD webcam and microphone, or reasonable quality external alternative
- A headset (even phone headphones with a mic) will help privacy & concentration in online sessions
- Ideally an HDMI output or VGA adapter to allow you to connect to a television for a larger picture
- A network port or network adapter so you can hardwire into the household router for better bandwidth
- Cat5 Cable to go with the above
- A broadband connection speed of at least 30Mbps is recommended.

Tips:

- You can download a broadband speed test app on your phone to see what actual speed you get in the room you plan to use to take class.
- Plugging your device directly into your router using a CAT5 cable helps connectivity.
- You have a SharePoint user account so make sure you have a cloud back up of your work.

If you have specific queries relating to IT or need further advice, please contact your Head of Course for specific details.

The School has a number of means tested scholarship funds available to assist students with purchases of computer hardware and other essential costs which would otherwise cause financial hardship. If you are concerned about finances relating to any of the suggestions above you should contact the Finance Director simon.payne@oldvic.ac.uk who can provide a hardship application form.