



St Joseph's School
PAYNEHAM

Early Years - Yr6



BYOD FOR LEARNING

WELCOME TO BYOD FOR LEARNING

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is revolutionising education. The Internet has brought access to virtually unlimited troves of information. The rise of video tutorials and multimedia resources means learning can be enriched and reinforced. Students can take a virtual tour of the Great Barrier Reef or listen to a university lecture with only a few keyboard strokes.

Beyond an explosive increase in access to information, technology has become a key tool in effective education allowing students to learn beyond the constraints of the four walls of the classroom or the limits of the school bell and timetable. The effective use of technology also enables teachers to quickly determine the extent of student learning using online and interactive resources. Gaining data quickly will allow teachers to modify learning activities to meet the needs of a wide range of learners more effectively. Teachers can now expand their lessons to incorporate the critical 21st Century skills of collaboration, communication, critical thinking and creativity.

REDEFINING LEARNING The use of technology at SJP is not about the substitution of paper and pens with digital technology. Rather, ICT is used to modify learning for our students through redefining lesson activities. It also provides new opportunities for students to experience whole lesson activities that would not be possible without ICT.

STP BYOD for Learning program started in 2016. By 2020 students from Years 3-6 continue to be given the opportunity to bring a digital device to school for learning in the classroom.

. CHOICE IN DEVICES

One of the first questions that parents ask is, 'What device should my child bring?'. The School is instructing families to purchase and apple ipad or laptop.

The school has set minimum specifications to enable students to use devices that will meet their educational needs while at school. When choosing a device, consideration should be given to weight, price and functionality. The value of purchasing extended warranty can also be considered.

We strive to equip our students as active and responsible digital citizens and lifelong learners.

PROS AND CONS

Using the same type of device at home and at school allows them to gain mastery of that device.

Support for students, as they adjust to using a device for their learning, is a focus area for school planning. The School will establish programs to train students in safe, organised and productive use of technology at school.

Parents and students naturally have many more questions relating to BYOD and the

Frequently Asked Questions section of this booklet aims to address as many of these questions as possible. If you have further questions once you have read this booklet, you can email us at :info@stjopayn.catholic.edu.au.

USING ICT WISELY

Promoting safe and healthy technology use by our students is a critical component of BYOD to SJP. It is essential that parents, carers and the School work in close partnership to promote this. Training our children in wise use of technology is a long-term project, for both the School and families, in building our children's character and wisdom. The final section of this booklet contains a number of ideas to consider in the development of proactive responses to the increasing influence of technology in people's lives.

DEVICE TYPES

iPAD \$400 - \$1200

- Lightweight, "instant-on" device with excellent battery life
- Premium brand with good build quality and stability. iPads are very portable devices that have been designed specifically with touch interface in mind. This makes them easy to use, and very familiar to students. Depending on the model, they can be cost competitive compared to a laptop, have excellent battery life, and are generally more compact than a laptop. BYOD requirements mean a physical keyboard would also need to be purchased, in the form of a Bluetooth (wireless) or keyboard case. **Please Note that student iPads should be Wi-Fi Only and should not contain a SIM card for Internet.**

STUDENT DEVICE REQUIREMENTS 2022m

Minimum and Recommended Specifications for BYOD

We ask that devices be no older than Gen 6 and that they are running the latest version of iOS (Currently iOS 15). It is important that the iPad's operating software is kept up to date to ensure that it is compatible with our Device Management Software (Jamf Pro). We use this management software to push Apps out to our School and BYOD Devices for use in the classroom. We recommend that iPads have a minimum of 64GB as many of today's Apps require more and more space to install and run.

HEALTHY AND SAFE USE OF ICT

Technology is very much a key component of learning in the 21st Century. When used wisely, it can improve and enrich learning. It is



essential that parents and the School work in close partnership to promote the health and safety of our children and students as they use ICT. Training our children in the wise use of technology is not solved with a quick fix.

Healthy and safe use of technology is a long term project in building our children's character and wisdom.

COMMUNICATION

Maintain open lines of communication within families.

- **Regularly discuss** the use of ICT at home and at school. Develop an ICT use agreement within the household between family members.
- Decide on times for schoolwork, times for entertainment using the ipad and screen free times.
- Discuss how and where ICT can be used.
- Establish common agreed practices for the whole family regarding use of technology. These are easiest to maintain if established when children are young. Don't wait for problems with technology to arise later as it is harder to implement change. As children grow, agreed practices may need to be modified to be age appropriate while still providing safe and healthy use of technology.

ESTABLISHING AND MODELLING HEALTHY PRACTICES

- **Make the parent/carer an administrator for the device** and set up a profile for your child. Establish that this device is for schoolwork and thus, as a parent, you can ask to look at work, Internet histories and device use at any time.
- **Keep screens out of the bedroom.** Establish a common charging area for smartphones and look for spaces, where possible, for children to use their devices in a common area of the house.

- **Agree on good digital etiquette.** It is important to relate well with others, both online and face to face. People need to feel heard and respected. So consider how ICT is used when in a group, i.e. does ICT build connections or pull people apart?

- **Minimise distractions.** While multitasking often gives the individual a sense of being effective and active, the impact is actually detrimental. Multitasking or being in a distracting environment impairs efficiency in completing work. Distractions include mobile phones, social media, games and television. Even listening to music uses up some of the brain's capacity to concentrate. Music with lyrics noticeably reduces the brain's ability to complete work effectively.

- **Physical health.** Set up a comfortable and healthy workplace to use technology. Good ergonomics are important to avoid muscle fatigue or eyestrain.

- **Ensure you plan time away from screens.** Regular breaks from working with digital technology are important to remain refreshed. Setting blocks of time to concentrate on screen-based activities broken up by time away from technology has many benefits. It will improve physical, emotional and mental health as well as boosting focus.

- **Plan to switch off screens well prior to bedtime.** A large body of evidence now shows that the blue light from smartphones, tablets and computers can interfere with the body's natural sleep cycles. Sleep is vital to learning, particularly the consolidation of long-term memory. It is important that sleep areas are kept separate from work areas.

Model the technology practices that you want your children to adopt. Parents/carers have a responsibility to understand the long-term investment of building character in our children. Consider how you use technology around your children and practise good digital etiquette.

RESOURCES

- **Filtering software** can help in providing protective boundaries to children. We utilise filtering software at School and recommend that families use a suitable form of filtering at home. It is important to understand that no filtering software will provide complete protection. Thus active parental involvement is vital in keeping children safe.
- **Investigate the parent control services offered by your Internet Service Provider (ISP).** This can include filtering of content entering your house through the modem and times when the modem can be automatically switched on and off (including remote/online control of your modem).
- A number of online resources are available to provide parents with help in supporting their children with healthy and safe technology use:
- **<http://thefrankchat.com/>** Designed for educating young people, parents and the community about the harms of pornography. James Grady, author of 'The Frank Chat' is a school chaplain and teacher.

