

WPS BYOD iPad Program Frequently Asked Questions

Why is this program being run?

Under the Australian Curriculum, it is expected that students learn to use ICT effectively and appropriately to access, create, and communicate information and ideas, solve problems and work collaboratively in all learning areas at school. Together, the teachers and School Board have researched current ICT best practice in education and Willetton Primary School's current and future capacity to deliver this. With this at the forefront, our school has strongly supported the introduction of a 1:1 program. 1:1 programs are our next step towards individualising learning, which can increase independence and self-initiated learning in students, and extend their learning beyond the classroom.

What impact will iPad usage have on collaboration in the classroom?

As in a conventional classroom, there will be times when students will work independently and times where they will work collaboratively. Observations made by our own teachers show that collaboration, peer teaching and student engagement in co-operative tasks is enhanced by the iPad use in the classroom.

How often will iPads be used in the classroom?

While students will have their iPads with them and available for use throughout the school day, they will not be used in every lesson, and their use will vary from day-to-day depending on the learning focus. Like other learning tools, their use will depend on the particular learning activity, and will invariably involve other activities such as writing, reading, discussion and assessment.

Will students have sufficient time to learn 'the basics' with this level of iPad usage?

Yes. It is current Department of Education policy that teachers spend 50% of instructional time teaching literacy and numeracy, ie. 'the basics'.

Why is the school not providing iPads for student use?

Willetton Primary school is unable to fund a 1:1 iPad program. The cost of running such a program is way beyond the school's means. We have ensured access and opportunity, providing the junior block having access to 50 iPads for use across 8 classes. We also supply a computer lab with desktop computers and each class also has an Interactive Whiteboard or E-Board. While these ICT resources have been very welcomed in the school, increasing the funding to provide individual iPads is not sustainable.

Why introduce iPads in Year 3?

In Year 3, children's sense of themselves and the world expands, students' abilities to work collaboratively develops, increasingly students are learning from a wider range of sources, exploring a wider range of technologies and can reflect on their learning. Introducing the device in Year 3 means your child will have maximum use of it during the final four years of primary school. The Year 3 students of 2018 will be continuing the 1:1 iPad program until they finish at Willetton PS as Year 6 students.

Will iPads replace pen and paper?

No. Pen and paper will continue to be used every day in the classroom, just as it is currently. iPads are primarily a learning tool and not intended to replace pens and pencils. Much of the students' planning of their iPad activities will be conducted using pen and paper. And importantly, given the nature of school and national testing, the introduction of iPads will not detract from our teaching focus on legible handwriting.

What types of learning activities are students likely to be involved in via the iPads??

Teachers will select applications that support the explicit teaching of literacy and numeracy as well as problem solving and critical and creative thinking activities. In addition to accessing selected websites and digital learning objects, some examples of learning opportunities utilising iPads could include: photo book, movie, mind map, graphics with voiceover, word processing and publishing with more sophisticated layouts.

Why is the school proposing the iPads and not tablets?

iPads are a light, highly portable device that enhance learning across the curriculum. Their flexibility allows easy integration of higher order and creative thinking skills and opportunities to share learning in a range of creative contexts. We have spent a considerable amount of time testing the iPad and we are convinced it will achieve all that we require (and more). The iPad will access the internet via the school WIFI. It allows for word processing, creation of spreadsheets and presentations.

What protection/filtering will be in place to protect students?

The school shares responsibility with parents, government and the community to protect our children from the impact of inappropriate material on the internet. Department of Education computer software management tool that blocks content, acts as a filter, and views student access online. Every internet request and download is recorded, logging user ID, time, page element accessed, size of element, method of access and the machine from which the request was made. The Department regularly monitors these logs for breaches.

Willetton Primary School *Student Usage Policy and Parent Agreement* is signed by students and parents at the beginning of each year. A primary school classroom is a protective and ideal environment to teach students safe and effective internet use and cyber safety before high school.

What mechanisms are available to allow parents to control iPad usage out of hours?

The iPads come with restrictions that can be setup to allow parents to manage, monitor, and strictly control what apps and access they have on the iPads, as well as the websites they can go to.

How will students be encouraged to care for their iPads?

Students will be taught to care for their iPads. There have not as yet been many iPads that have been broken or damaged in the program so far. However, as the occasional one may get dropped, we do ask that parents organise insurance for the iPad to be used at school and provide a safe and secure cover for their iPad.

How will iPad protection be managed (including to & from school)?

It is essential that a sturdy case is purchased to protect the iPad in transit. The iPads will need to be protected in a hard-case and then carried inside the school bag.

What if I don't provide an iPad?

The iPad program is ***completely voluntary***. Students who do not have their own device will have shared access to other technology devices including Macbooks and desktop computers.

Why Apple?

- Stability - The iPad operating system has the reputation of being robust and intuitive.
- Security - The Apple App Store tests all new apps before releasing them to the public, ensuring no inappropriate content appears. The android app store is an open source platform anyone can upload to; the apps are not checked and leave people exposed to unwanted content.
- Continuity - Apps perform the same way on all recent versions of the iPad, making it easier to cater for a variety of devices over time. Apple updates are pushed through automatically ensuring users are consistently using the most up to date versions of the software. The Apple ID system allows users to change devices without losing any apps.
- Support - The AppleCare Protection Plan provides 24/7 complimentary telephone support, including software support for 2 years. AppleCare gives you one-stop technical service and support from Apple experts and most issues can be resolved in a single call.

What iPad should I buy?

We recommend the **iPad Air 2 32GB**. These can be purchased from a variety of recommended Apple resellers. Purchasing an older iPad may mean your device is unable to be updated and the compatibility of apps may become an issue in the future.

It is worth noting that Apple regularly upgrades its iPad range each year around October when they release their new version. After this, (often in late October) they drop the prices of the last generation iPads (such as the Air 2) which may make it cheaper if you are buying an iPad.

Why 32GB?

Items stored on the iPad include apps, photos, videos and other media and 64GB will enable students to store their work on the device without having to manage the content externally. It allows the flexibility for home and holiday use by your family.

What research supports 1 to 1 iPads in Primary Schools?

19 schools were selected to take part in the 2012 Department of Education ECE iPad initiative. The Dept of Education's Independent evaluation of the iPad initiative concluded that teaching with iPads:

- Improved independence and self-initiated learning among students
- Improved student motivation and active engagement in learning in literacy and numeracy
- Improved capacity for teachers to plan for and meet individual student needs
- Extend students' learning beyond the classroom
- Improve parental engagement in learning and
- Strengthened home-school links

What if my child already has an iPad?

If your family already has an iPad 2 (or newer) and you would like to send this to school with your child, you do not need to purchase a new device at this time. The iPad 2 is the minimum that can be used. We do not recommend purchasing an iPad 2, but if you have one already you can use that for your child's school iPad. If you are purchasing an iPad, we recommend a later generation iPad as the iPad 2 is approaching the point of being out-of-date. If buying new, we recommend purchasing an iPad **Air 2**.

Apps

You will be required to install apps on your child's iPad while at home in order for them to participate fully in the 1:1 iPad program. A list of apps which need to be installed on all iPads will be provided by each year level. Information regarding app lists will be provided at the beginning of the school year. Willetton Primary School staff will not be able to install apps on your child's iPad. If you purchase the AppleCare Protection Plan for your iPad you are provided with 24/7 telephone support from Apple technical experts for 2 years. If you have problems installing apps they will provide assistance over the phone.

Where should I get my child's iPad from?

There are a number of options you may wish to consider in regard to providing your Year 3 child (or Year 4, 5 or 6 child) with an iPad to bring to school in 2018:

- You may provide an iPad you already have at home. Please consider personal items such as photos that you may wish to remove before you send it to school with your child.
- Winthrop Online – We have negotiated with Winthrop to provide you with the best deal and packages if you require them. You can choose to buy outright, buy with 6 months interest free or set up a leasing package.
- Any other retailer that stocks iPads.

Why Winthrop?

Winthrop Australia is an approved provider of Apple products to the Department of Education. They are able to provide a wrap-around service to schools including:

1. One stop shop - The online ordering portal enables you to get everything you need in the same place.
2. Warranty and Insurance - Winthrop Australia offers logging of warranty and insurance repairs through their online portal. iPads are dropped off at school to be logged by a school representative, collected by Winthrop Australia, repaired / replaced and returned in a timely manner.
3. Support - Winthrop Australia offers ongoing professional development, parent information sessions to schools and phone support.

Do we need insurance? What happens if my iPad is damaged or broken?

- iPads brought to school are **not covered** by the Willetton Primary School or the Department of Education's insurance.
- Where iPads are purchased through Winthrop Australia and the Optional 2 Year Protectsure Insurance option is selected. Families should follow the Winthrop approved process. The school may be able to assist with this if required.
- Where the Protectsure Insurance Option is not taken or the iPad is purchased independently or brought from home it needs to be covered under your own insurance. The school will **not provide** a loan iPad in this situation. If the iPad is damaged at school it is the **parents' responsibility** to pay the insurance excess and any other repair costs which might occur.
- Before your iPad can come to school you will be required to complete a form providing the serial number of your device and confirming you understand it is not covered by the school or Department of Education insurance policy.
- The student and their family/caregivers assume full financial responsibility for the iPad in the event of damage, loss, theft and any other instance of negligence and/or abuse.

Leasing

Flexirent in conjunction with Winthrop Australia offers a leasing option for parents. The following options are available to parents:

1. 6 months Interest Free - this works like a credit card. You place an order and select this option on the portal.
2. Flexi Rent – this is a leasing option. You can choose the device you want to lease via Winthrop's portal and under-take a lease term. You will have smaller regular payments with insurance included. At the end of the lease term you have the option to refresh the device or buy out the device at an agreed amount with Flexi.

What else do I need to buy?

When you purchase your iPad you will need to consider the following:

- Your iPad must be fitted with a protective case, front and back. Keep in mind the students will be using them to take photos and videos so ensure the cover can be held or moved to allow easy access.
- All Apple hardware comes with a one-year limited warranty and up to 90 days of complimentary telephone technical support. It is recommended you extend your coverage further with the AppleCare Protection Plan. If you purchase your device through the Winthrop Australia portal you may select the 2 Year iPad AppleCare Protection Plan as an optional extra.
- Your iPad is not covered by the Willetton PS or Department of Education insurance policy. You may wish to check with your home and/or contents insurer if your existing cover extends to an iPad being brought to school by your child. If you purchase your device through Winthrop Australia you may select insurance as an optional extra.

Security - Before, after and during school

The security of the iPad is the responsibility of the parent/carer outside of school hours. iPads will not be allowed to be used before or after school in the school grounds. Students are not allowed to remove iPads from classes during lunch or recess. iPads will be kept locked in a cupboard in the classroom when student are out of their classrooms. Students will be responsible to carry their iPads to a specialist class if required

What happens if my iPad is not functioning properly?

If you purchased AppleCare Protection Plan, then you will have 24/7 technical support. Your first option would be to access the support provided by the Apple experts through AppleCare.

Depending where you purchased your iPad from, you will need to refer to the warranty you selected at the point of sale. Apple products have a 1 year limited warranty unless you purchase an AppleCare Protection Plan which provides a 2 year warranty.

Will my child be able to use their iPad in subsequent years?

Yes, the students will use iPads in Year 4, 5 and Year 6.

Can parents regulate what apps are installed or deleted on the device?

Yes. Restrictions can be set by parents to regulate which apps are installed or deleted on the device, as well as access to the iTunes store. Parents wishing to explore this can find useful guides on-line or obtain information at the various parent sessions which will be scheduled. The school encourages trust and monitoring in the first instance with blocking being the final choice.

Will students have access to social networking sites?

The use of social networking is not permitted during school hours.

Will the device add extra weight to their bags?

An iPad weighs 0.65kg – less than many books.

How does my child backup the information that is on the iPad?

The school encourages students to back up any data that they have stored on their device. They can do this through syncing their iPad to a computer, or using new technology such as iCloud, Dropbox, etc, to back up any data. This will be outlined when students receive their iPads.

Will my child be able use the iPad during breaks at school?

No. Students are strongly encouraged to develop an understanding of the importance of maintaining a balance of work and outdoor play throughout the day. Students are only permitted to use iPads in classrooms or other designated areas during class time unless given special permission.

Will the battery last all day at school?

The battery life of the iPad is sufficient for up to approximately 10 hours. Students will be educated about the importance of charging their batteries and how to do this. Charging facilities will not be provided at the school.

Can my child have their iPad taken from them?

In the course of the school day a student may have their iPad removed for a period of time if the student breaches the *Student User Agreement*.

Will students be allowed to have music and games on the iPad?

Students will be permitted to have legally downloaded music and games stored on the iPad. Parents are strongly encouraged to monitor the appropriateness of the games installed onto the iPad. Any non-educational apps must be grouped into a 'Home' folder.

How long will we have the device for?

It is generally believed that an iPad will have a 2-3 year useful lifetime in terms of battery and processor performance.

