STRIVE TO ACHIEVE

BUNBURY
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Bunbury TDS
DigiTech

BYOD iPad 2021

Information Brochure & Guidelines

Updated November 2020

Background Information

Since 2014 the school has been implementing iPad tablet technology as a result of many months of research, planning, consultation, team meetings and community feedback. The implementation has included working with local and regional schools, Teacher Development Schools with established best practice in ICT, working with consultants, visiting schools, the community and Department of Education experts.

At the beginning of 2015, the school commenced the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) iPad program. The Year 5 students were the first year group to trial the BYOD iPad technology in the classroom. Other year groups had access to school banks of devices.

In 2016, the school expanded the BYOD iPad initiative to include students in Year 4, 5 & 6.

In 2017, after two years of successful expansion along with consultation with parents, staff, administration and school board, the decision was made to consolidate the BYOD program by continuing to provide years 4, 5 & 6 students with the option to participate in the program. Students across the school will still continue to have access to banks of school owned iPads as part of teaching and learning activities. Expansion of the program to other year levels will be considered as part of the school's ongoing planning, consultation and review process.

1. What is the BYOD iPad Program?

The BYOD iPad program will allow students to use their own personal device at school and home. The iPad is another tool to engage and enable students to develop the skills and habits to become successful 21st century learners within a school educational setting. The integration of this technology helps to transform teaching pedagogy, enabling teachers to implement highly refined individual programs on student devices. This enables our students to develop the skills to think critically, problem solve, be creative and demonstrate innovation using iPad technology at home, school and within the community.

Teachers continue to teach lessons using established teaching and learning practices, using iPad technology as a tool to enhance and personalise the curriculum for students when and where appropriate. The amount of time spent using iPads in the classroom varies depending on planned lessons.

As part of implementing the Australian Curriculum - ICT General Capabilities schools are expected to:

- teach social and ethical protocols and practices
- ensure students conduct investigations
- provide opportunities to create
- communicate ideas & information
- manage and operate

The iPad program provides a key technology tool which enables students to achieve these capabilities and prepare them for future education.

The iPad is very effective in providing a number of tools within the one device which would normally require a number of hardware devices and software components.

While there are many educational applications for literacy and numeracy, the iPads will also provide creative opportunities in specialist areas: visual arts, music, languages and physical education well beyond the scope of what is possible today with our current school infrastructure. In addition, the iPad technology has proven an invaluable tool in supporting students with special learning needs in speech, literacy and numeracy. The school has already commenced a holistic and research based approach to ensure the success of the initiative. This includes support for teachers, students, parents, and infrastructure coupled with mentoring, professional development and regular review.

The iPad enhances existing teaching and learning focus areas in the Australian Curriculum and enables education delivery that would otherwise be impossible or impractical. The mobile nature of the device makes it easy to provide opportunities for teachers to effectively enhance teaching and learning initiatives both inside and outside of the classroom.

Teachers are supported, mentored and coached to use iPads as a tool in their classroom. Student use of iPads will encourage self-assessment, responsibility for individual learning and greater collaboration, both in the classroom and with the local and global community. In addition, the school has invested in infrastructure and wireless connectivity upgrades to support the program. Our school ICT technician is also available to support teachers and students.

The iPad is a companion device. Its advantages are its mobility, ease of use and its flexible use between home and school. The iPad will be used in planned teaching sessions to assist with the achievement of identified knowledge and skills.

2. The iPad initiative is NOT:

- technology for the sake of technology
- students using iPads all day at the expense of daily face-to-face teaching
- replacing pen and paper, or the teaching of correct handwriting skills
- impacting on outdoor student activities
- apps replacing teachers
- the only tool used for completing work or student assessment.
- replacing laptop or desktop computers

3. What about equity?

Equity of access is core to the culture of the school.

The school is already successfully using iPad technology to support classroom programs and individual students with special needs both inside and outside of the classroom including specialist learning areas.

Any student participating in the BYOD iPad program that doesn't have access to a personal iPad will where possible, use one of the school owned iPads. This includes a student whose iPad is in for repair or who has forgotten to bring it to school. Please note that school owned iPads can only be used at school.

A range of iPad models are supported as a BYOD device including the iPad mini. This increases the likelihood that existing family owned devices can be used, as well as providing a range of price points for those families purchasing a new device. Details have been provided in the '**Requirements and Guidelines for BYOD 2020'** document which will be useful in making any purchasing decision.

4. Why has the school chosen the BYOD approach?

The school continues to see a place for computers in the classroom and has a finite ICT resource budget to maintain and replace computers and related infrastructure. If the school were to pursue a school supplied iPad initiative this would result in not being able to maintain computer to student ratios within the classroom.

Research and trialling has shown the value and safety of students each having their own personal iPad, as opposed to sharing them.

The school has collaborated with several schools in the region who have purchased and implemented iPads in their schools. All of these schools have already adopted a BYOD initiative or are in the process of changing over to a BYOD program. The advantages of a student using their own personal device are numerous. These include:

- Ability to store media and documents without interference by other students, either accidental or intentional
- The student's documents cannot be edited or deleted by other students who might use the device.
- Each device can be individually monitored. Multiple device users would have to be recorded to be monitored. Even then proving who was using the device at the time of an issue would be difficult.
- Wireless access provides the ability to email documents, search the internet when needed and print.
- There is no need to wait for an iPad to become available to commence and complete work.
- Not having to wait for another class to finish using them.
- The ability to work on internet related research where all computers in the class are already in use. (Please note a typical student to computer ratio is approximately 5:1, with coordination of student access to this resource being identified as an issue early in the ICT review.)

5. If my child already has a tablet that is not an iPad, can they use it at school? i.e. Android or Windows

Unfortunately, this is an iPad only program which means other devices such as Android or Windows cannot be supported.
After extensive research by the school, a decision to use iPads was based on the following:

- The majority of schools consulted are now only solely iPad or transitioning to be, this includes those schools who initially implemented alternative platforms.
- The school requires iPads primarily to ensure the same applications are available across all devices.

- This also extends to methods for submission of work and in classroom presentation on the digital projector.
- Importantly our staff continues to be well trained to support learning and troubleshooting on iPads.
- Apple has an Education Team that provides guidance, support and professional development second to none.
- Apple has a track record of supporting the iPad with operating system and security updates far beyond the supported lifetime of other tablets. Importantly these updates are available worldwide without delay. **These two factors are considerable in terms of online safety and the longevity of investment in the device.**

- Apple has a rigorous vetting process of all apps (this includes educational apps) submitted to the app store. Teachers have access to over 20,000+ apps are designed specifically for educational purposes.
- Teachers can facilitate a change in student workflow through multi-media capabilities of the device. This can include the design of digital eBooks and iMovies. These applications are only available on an iPad device.
- Of all tablet devices, the iPad is the current market leader. It has a responsive multi-touch screen and a large, high-resolution LED-backlit IPS display. The iPad is compact, lightweight and portable. A battery life of 10 hours will be adequate for the whole school day.

6. If my child or the family already have an iPad can they use it at school?

Yes, as long as the iPad meets the minimum hardware requirements detailed in the **'Requirements and Guidelines for BYOD 2020'** document, and adheres to the school's policy regarding appropriateness of apps and media, including background pictures.

7. Which iPad models can be used?

Historically new models tend to be released every year around October, please refer to the '**BPS Requirements and Guidelines for BYOD'** for further information as this is updated each year.

8. What about BYOD iPads with SIM card 3G/4G access?

Student with a SIM card can circumvent school online security and safety mechanisms. Should a device with this capability be used it MUST have the SIM card removed prior to arrival at school each day. This forms part of the school policy. Any student in breach of this requirement will be subject to disciplinary consequences.

9. Where can Parents Get Advice about purchasing iPads?

There are a number of local retailers who are involved in supplying BYOD iPads to students. They are aware of the school requirements for BYOD and provide packages which include the iPad, case, setup support and related services.

While the school will provide some self-service resources to support parents, it will be limited. These local companies' services are recommended for families who have limited knowledge and require additional IT support, in particular during the setup process of the iPad.

- Computer West (Busselton) – 9754 2324,
- Solutions IT, Victoria St (Bunbury) – 9721 9660
- Alternatively, parents can use their own supplier

The following website may be useful to compare recent models, iPads are not released on a specific schedule, however the following websites may act as a helpful guide for timing a purchase.

http://store.apple.com/au/ipad/compare

http://buyersguide.macrumors.com

10. What type of Protective iPad Covers and Ear Plugs are Recommended?

A robust protective case that covers and protects the corners and the edges will be required. There are a number of cases on the market to choose from (e.g. the Griffin Survivor). Please refer to the '**iPad Case & Head Phone Information**' document for suggestions.

Students will need a set of robust over the ear headphones. **Please note:** there are headphones on the market that restrict audio levels to provide better protection for a child's hearing. (e.g. Liquid Ear head phones. These can be purchased at local stores.

11. Will my child's personal iPad be shared?

No your child's iPad is only for their personal use.

12. Who will be responsible for installing and updating applications on the iPad?

- The school will inform parents of the apps that need to be purchased and/or downloaded from the iTunes Store.
- The iTunes Store is accessed via the internet which provides the ability to create a password protected iTunes user account.
- The store will provide access a variety of free and paid applications (apps). Please refer the Family Sharing information in the Cost of Apps section below*.
- The school provides a list of student apps. **All Apps need to be downloaded at home**.
- Creating an Apple ID allows you to access the App Store and iTunes. Students under 13 years old must not create their own iTunes account or purchase iTunes vouchers without parent assistance.
- To support parents, the school will continue to use our website to provide links to the required apps, which will simplify the downloading process.
- To ensure your child's iPad operates effectively, please ensure that any updates are completed (at home)

13. What is the cost of Apps?

While many great applications are free, some are not. Teachers will carefully select applications first and foremost for their intended use, while also keeping in mind the cost.

The school aims to cap app purchases at **$50** per year. To better manage app downloads, teachers will notify parents when they need to download apps to their child's iPad.

Please Note Apple has Family Sharing with iOS 8 in October 2014. In a nut shell if you buy an app or book for one of your children then typically you and your other children will have access to the app or book without having to purchase it again – unless restricted by the developer. Find out more at the website below:

"Up to six people in your family can share purchases from iTunes, iBooks and the App Store without sharing accounts. Pay for family purchases with the same credit card and approve kids' spending straight from a parent's device."

http://www.apple.com/au/ios/whats-new/family-sharing/

14. Will I have to purchase additional Apple devices to support the iPad at home?

No. Devices are stand-alone. This means they can be managed without an Apple computer. Should you choose to manage the iPad via a computer both Windows and Apple computers are compatible with iTunes (which is software freely available from Apple).

15. Does the school have a policy on appropriate use of the iPad at school?

Yes. The school has developed very thorough and detailed policies, a code of conduct, including staff and student agreements for using the iPad at school. The policies extend to staff, students and parents. This includes students being required to sign an *iPromise* student agreement for using iPads at school. The agreement clearly outlines student expectations and complements the existing school ICT Online Code of Conduct documents which are signed at enrolment. These documents will be made available to parents via the school website or upon request.

16. Will students have access to the internet on the iPad at school and will it be filtered?

Yes. Students will have access to the internet at school to complete some tasks. All access is monitored via the school network monitoring and filtering system. Bunbury Primary uses the Department of Education Fortigate firewall to filter access.

As part of our online policy all students are taught appropriate skills and safe use practices in accessing online resources.

17. Can we have other non-school apps on our iPads? Yes. However your child

will only use school based apps at school. We recommend creating a folder for school apps and a folder for home apps. Space on ipads causes issues. Please ensure your child's ipad has enough space to operate effectively at school.

18. Will iPads cause eye strain?

Looking at any screen (computer,TV or iPad) for a long period of time without resting your eyes may cause eye strain. This is commonly called computer vision syndrome and relates to computer and laptop monitors. One of the reasons for using iPads is they potentially reduce the prospect of computer vision syndrome in the following ways:

- o Due to its mobile nature, the chance of staring at a fixed local screen for an extended period of time is reduced.
- o The brightness of the screen can easily be adjusted to match lighting conditions.
- o It is easy to tilt the iPad or change body position to reduce glare.

iPads with retina displays may help to address this issue. Gary Heiting, an optometrist and associate editor of the site, All About Vision, says '*A key factory in something that's called computer vision syndrome, or just eye strain from computer use, is screen resolution*," Heiting states that the new(er) iPad(s), with higher resolutions around 264+ ppi (pixels per inch), people will notice less pixilation, especially in a small typeface. It's not just an enjoyment issue or an aesthetic issue, but it's definitely a visual comfort issue, over time." (Mashable, 2012)

19. How will my iPads be secured at school?

Students will not be permitted to use them in the school grounds, before or after school or at recess or lunch. Upon arrival at school students will be required to store the iPad in a secure location in their classroom. Classrooms will be routinely locked when no one is present. The school will be discussing device security with after school care providers, and recommend parents of students using this service to also discuss security arrangements.

20. Are correct iPad Security Restrictions important?

Yes. Keep your child safe by ensuring the correct security restrictions are set on their school iPad. The school can provide instructions on the correct security settings to apply.

21. What if a personal device is damaged or lost?

No responsibility is taken by the school for loss or damage of personal iPads. Students should avoid storing drink bottles in the same pocket as their iPad.

The school recommends parents consult their home and contents insurer to ensure the iPad is covered on route to and at school. Apple introduced AppleCare+ protection in Australia in October 2014, which provides for extended warranty and support, including accidental damage coverage. Please refer to the following website for details including terms and conditions.

http://store.apple.com/au/product/APP_IPAD_PLUS_AUTO-112700/applecare-for-ipad

22. Who will be responsible for charging the student personal iPad?

iPads will need to be charged each night at home.

Further Information

Please refer to our school website for up to date information. The school will also be providing further information and professional learning sessions for parents on iPad technology during the year. Information will be sent home with students and via the school app.

If you require further assistance or information, please don't hesitate to contact the school on 9721 2660.

Acknowledgment

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Franca Dillon
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