



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### What is BYOD?

The term “device” refers to any mobile electronic technology. The term “Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)” refers to technology models where students bring a personally owned device into school for the purpose of learning.

### Why BYOD?

The BYOD program opens up learning opportunities for our students providing them with easy access to ‘anytime, anywhere’ learning. The increasing availability of personal mobile devices has accelerated the demand for new models of learning in schools. To stay in line with this as well as technological advances, we are updating our current 1 to 1 program by implementing a BYOD program across the school.

### Why iPads?

We believe in a consistent approach to ensure best productivity with regards to maximising student learning outcomes. After in-depth research and consultation with other schools and field experts, an Apple iPad device has been chosen as the best fit device for our school. Along with this, an iPad:

- is a personal device enabling anywhere, anytime learning,
- is a mobile device which is preferable rather than a portable device,
- has a touch interface which allows for a high level of interactivity and correlates to the everyday lives of our students,
- has an instant start up function which allows for greater use of class time for learning and teaching,
- is seen to be an intuitive device and minimal technical support will be required,
- allows for immediate access to a vast range of information,
- provides vast choice of applications,
- enhances connectedness between home and school life due to its light and portable design,
- has been in the hands of our staff and students over the past two to years.

### What has been the process so far?

- Defining goals
- Formation of a Device Implementation Team
- Researching
- School visits
- Planning collaboratively Device Implementation Team
- Communication with School Council
- Parent survey results showed that Years 3-5 would be the preferred focus for 2016
- Staff development, learning and teaching to drive process
- Engaging our school community
- Developing policies
- Professional Development for all staff
- Implementation in 2016 for Years 3-5 with most Year Sixes participating.

### Are parents paying for the iPads?

Yes. This program is a fully funded parent model. As long as the device meets the school’s recommendations, it can be purchased privately anywhere. Parents are encouraged to shop around to secure a purchase arrangement that best suits their circumstances. We have worked together with MyMac to set up a Parent Portal which provides families with finance options for outright purchasing, leasing, renting, warranty and insurance, at education prices. To visit this portal, please visit [www.mymaceducation.com.au](http://www.mymaceducation.com.au), click the Black Hill logo and use the password “sherrard” (if prompted to).

## **What happens to students who do not have an iPad?**

There will be a bank of devices for students to access as shared devices during school times.

## **What are the recommended and minimum specifications for the iPad?**

We encourage our families to organise the use of later models of these devices to ensure compatibility and supportability for a longer period of time. Recommended devices are an iPad 2 or higher, or iPad Mini with Wi-Fi capability and 32GB of storage. The iPad 1 does not meet minimum requirements.

**Please note:** Some secondary schools run a BYOD iPad program, and state that an iPad Mini is not acceptable. If your child is attending a secondary school with a BYOD program, please check with that school about their minimum requirements so you do not have to purchase another device when your child attends that school.

## **What if my child has access to an iPad already?**

Students may use their current iPad as long as it meets the school's recommended minimum requirements as above.

## **What is an Apple ID?**

An Apple ID is a user name you use for everything you do with Apple. Creating an account for an Apple service, such as the iTunes Store or the App Store creates an Apple ID.

## **Will the BYOD program be introduced at other year levels?**

In 2017 Years 3-6 will have the opportunity to participate in the BYOD program.

## **Will parents have to pay for the device if it is damaged, lost or stolen?**

Yes. We will be educating the students about being active digital citizens and welcome support from parents to ensure that students are being responsible users at home. As you are the owner of the device, the iPad should be covered through your personal household insurance with 'away from home cover'.

## **Will parents be required to buy accessories?**

iPads come with a standard cable, power adaptor and earphones. The purchase of any additional accessories is at the discretion of parents. All iPads will require a sturdy case and screen protector.

## **Will parents be required to pay for or download apps from the Apple Store?**

Parents will be required to pay for a limited number of educational apps, to be included in the 2017 fees and charges. Parents will not be required to download apps for school use, apps will be delivered electronically to the devices during school times. The cost for this has not yet been finalised.

## **Will my child's internet use be monitored at school?**

Yes. The school has a Wi-Fi connection that will filter student internet use in line with Departmental Policy and cache systems.

## **What happens if the iPad stops working?**

As the device will be privately owned, this will be the responsibility of the families.

## **Is there an agreement I need to sign before my child/ren can use the iPad at school?**

Yes. As part of the BYOD program, devices will not be connected to the school network until the *Digital Technologies Acceptable Use Agreement* and *BYOD Agreement* have been signed and returned. They must be signed by a parent/guardian and by the student.

## **Will my child/ren stop handwriting?**

No. Students will still be taught all requirements of the curriculum, including handwriting. Handwriting will continue to be a fundamental skill we focus on teaching, developing and maintaining at Black Hill Primary School. It is envisaged that the iPads will complement the learning process across the curriculum.

## **Have teachers' skills been updated to provide content and engage them in this implementation?**

All teachers have had an iPad for the past three years and there has been an expectation that they are using it for communication, assessment and reporting as well as curriculum delivery and design. All teachers have been involved in familiarisation programs more recently as part of an ongoing professional development process.

## **How often will the iPad be used in class?**

The iPad is a tool for learning which will work alongside and complement more traditional tools, for example, pen and paper. Teachers will leverage these technologies in their classroom when the need arises.

## **Will my child/ren be able to use their iPad during school breaks?**

No. Students are only permitted to use iPads during class time. iPads will be stored in a secure storage location, designated and managed by their classroom teacher.

## **How will homework be affected by the use of iPads?**

The iPad is a tool for learning which will work alongside and complement more traditional tools, for example, pen and paper. Students may wish to work on homework tasks using the iPad, using their discretion for its suitability and appropriateness for the task specified.

## **How do I manage the iPad at home?**

iPads provide a tool for learning. Students can use their iPad for other purposes but these must be appropriate to the context, school or home, and must be subject to permission. It is the responsibility of families to discuss, set and implement their own rules and expectations around safe and appropriate use of iPads at home.

We encourage families to:

- set clear expectations around time spend on the iPad,
- establish explicit boundaries around where and when the iPad is to be used,
- specify where the iPad is to be stored when not in use (this can be the location for charging),
- model positive digital use by showing your child/ren how to use their iPad in a responsible and respectful way,
- share iPad experiences by asking your child/ren to demonstrate ways they use their iPad at school,
- monitor application type and use as well as internet searches,
- set parental controls and home internet filtering where appropriate,
- visit <https://esafety.gov.au/> for esafety resources,
- visit <https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/parent-resources/chatterbox> for a fresh, new and jargon-free perspective directed at parents on cybersafety issues.