



1 to 1 Technology FAQ

Please see below responses to commonly asked questions as posed by College families.

What happens if a family cannot afford to purchase an iPad? *Contact the principal to discuss your circumstances.*

How will this program enhance and improve my child's learning?

The Australian curriculum emphasises the significant changes in student learning in the 21st Century. The curriculum is centred around a set of general capabilities - literacy, numeracy, ICT competence, creative and critical thinking, ethical behaviour, personal and social competence and intercultural understanding. The current digital world allows anyone to learn 'anywhere anytime' and the general capabilities are important in this context. We are preparing students to become effective members of society. They will be employed in jobs that currently do not exist. Students must be immersed in developing the skills of creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and communication. The iPad provides many opportunities for enhancing these skills. The iPad is a personal, mobile device that is used in an increasing number of professions and workplaces. Giving our students the opportunity to use an iPad at school gives the teachers the opportunity to ensure our students are capable and ethical independent learners in a deeply engaging learning environment.

Do I have to buy Apps for the iPad or are they provided by the College?

The College will provide all the standard Apps required for use in learning.

Are there particular cases recommended to protect the iPad?

There are many reviews of iPad cases available on the internet. Some of the regularly recommended cases include: Rokform Roklock V3, Otterbox Defender, Griffin Survivor, G Form Extreme Portfolio, Hardcandy Shockproof case, Ballistic Tough Jacket, STM Dux, and SwitchEasy Cara.

What measures can I take to prevent damage to the iPad?

Purchase one of the recommended cases, these offer the best protection from accidental damage.

How do I print from the iPad?

Staff will be encouraging students to submit work electronically. Students will be able to print to the photocopier in the College library. It is possible to print from the cloud at home.

What will happen if my child doesn't have the iPad at school?

Similar to the situation where a student forgets a textbook, the child would be encouraged to use the best means necessary to achieve the outcomes of the lesson.

Will the College provide iPad charging stations?

The battery lasts 10 hours. Students will need to charge the iPad each night and there will be no need to charge at the College.

How will teachers know what my child is accessing at any particular time?

All traffic on the College internet is monitored by our web filters. Close classroom supervision limits student opportunity to access Apps and sites that are not connected to classroom learning. AirServer software will allow student screens to be displayed directly on the data projector or classroom monitor.

I have a problem giving an iPad to one of my children and not the other two, any suggestions? *The iPad is becoming the core technology for the Year 4 to 9 students at the College in 2018, but the use of the iPad by members of the family at home is entirely a family decision. Prep to Year 3 students have access to one class set of iPads per year level.*

Will the College network cope with the increased traffic?

The College network will manage the increased traffic. The College currently has sufficient bandwidth allocated by the Catholic Education Office Toowoomba. Our use is monitored and will be increased as the need arises.

What connectivity restrictions will occur at College and will this be the same at home?

When connected to the College network the internet will be filtered through the College's proxy server and Zscaler. No restrictions exist at home unless set up by individual families.

Will their handwriting suffer?

Students will continue to have many opportunities each day to practise their handwriting. This will not be an all or nothing venture. Technology will be used in the classroom where it is recognised as delivering better learning opportunities and outcomes.

How do students save data?

Students can save all work to the device itself, through iCloud technology or email it to themselves. It is possible to save to the iCloud then download to a computer application.

It is a huge expense for families. Why doesn't the College buy some class sets that can be used like the computer rooms are?

The iPad is a personal device. It is intended that students will use this in many of their lessons and at home, effectively allowing 24/7 access to technology. This cannot be achieved using a shared device or as part of a class set.

Who is responsible for syncing the iPad? Will I lose any apps that are synced off another computer? *The student should be syncing the iPad to a home computer so that if it is damaged and needs re syncing all applicable Apps provided by the College will be transferred back onto the new device. The College is exploring options for students to be able to sync through iCloud on the College internet before or after official class times. It is highly recommended that students sync at home.*

How will the Apps be updated?

Apps updates can occur either at home or at the College. Students will be shown the process for updates.

I understand that many student texts are now becoming electronic and are licensed on a yearly basis. Do we have to pay for the licences or will the College meet that cost?

We anticipate that the College will continue to meet the cost of textbooks, digital or otherwise.

How often will my child be using this device at College?

The core purposes for the iPad include ebook reader, research tool, electronic exercise book, organisational tool and collaboration tool. These functions apply in all subject areas. The iPad is a tool for learning and will be used in all subjects.

Do they also need to purchase Apps or a keyboard?

All Apps required for learning will be provided by the College. A keyboard is optional, but not required.

Why iPads and not another tablet device which might be cheaper?

Prior to introducing the 1 to 1 device program, tablet reviews were consulted and College families were surveyed. Three different reviews of tablet devices rated the iPad as either first or second. Survey data from families indicated that 75% of families had already selected the iPad as their tablet of choice. The iPad device is the most appropriate for what we as a College are trying to achieve. Applications for educational use on the iPad are extensive. eTextbooks are being produced for the iPad and iBook Author allows us to produce custom made eBooks for students. Among other benefits, an Apple device does not require highly expensive spyware to be installed, updated and resubscribed, and therefore maintenance costs associated with viruses are not applicable.

Can they use their iPads for sustained reading?

Yes, as long as the student is reading an ebook.

My child is not familiar with an iPad environment or iCloud computing. How much training will they receive? Will this be done in timetabled lessons?

Students will receive initial training in each class where the iPad is being used. Tutorials for all Apps are freely available on Youtube. Similar to staff who are also learning a new device, students will be provided with appropriate resources to familiarise themselves with the device. There would be an expectation that some of this would occur as homework in the first few weeks.

How many years will this iPad last?

Like most devices, if cared for according to the guidelines suggested by Apple it may last for a significant amount of time. One could anticipate three years.

I have heard about the possibility of insuring the iPad. Cost? What does it cover? From where is insurance available?

It is possible to insure an iPad, costs and cover varies according to provider. Each family will need to determine whether they consider insurance a worthwhile option. One example is Apple Care which costs \$130 for two years. Families should investigate whether the iPad is included under their home contents insurance.

Do I, as a parent need to insure the iPad against theft and damage?

This is entirely up to the parent. You would weigh up the cost of insurance against the potential cost of repairs. The protective case is good insurance against damage.

What happens if the iPad gets lost or stolen on the way to College?

Firstly, theft would be a police matter. Secondly, if the iPad is left on the bus, the College would contact the bus company and attempt to recover the iPad. The College will encourage students not to use the device on the bus, thus reducing the likelihood of loss or theft.

Adobe Flash Player is not compatible with Apple products?

This is correct. Apple have no plans to allow their devices to play Flash files as it poses a security risk. It also allows more of their competitor's product to be accessed, thus reducing the potential for their market share.

Will my child experience using a laptop at any stage or is it envisaged that the iPad should last for all secondary years?

Technology is changing at such a rapid rate that it is very difficult to determine even the style of device that will be in place in as little as four years time. Computer laboratories will be maintained at the Secondary section of the College for students to access specialist software.

Can I get an iPad mini?

The recommended minimum specification is the iPad Air2 32Gb. The screen of the iPad Mini is approximately two thirds the size of the recommended iPad's screen, but the other specifications are essentially similar.

Is it acceptable for our child to use our existing iPad? Yes.

Are your teachers up to speed with this technology?

Teachers are continually updating their skills to effectively use the iPad in the classroom.

What happens if my child is caught doing the wrong thing with their iPad - will it be confiscated? *It would be poor practice to remove a key learning device from a student as a punishment. There would be consequences attached to its misuse as with other breaches of conduct at the College. Policies around such issues will be made available through the College website.*

What will be on the iPad?

There will be Apps (applications) as provided by the College for student learning. There will also be some textbooks.

Will my child still be issued with text books?

Where digital textbooks are not available or cost prohibitive, a textbook will be issued. We are keen to reduce the number of textbooks and the weight of student bags.

If the College had 'ownership' of the devices, wouldn't the College have greater control over their usage?

The iPad is designed to be a personal device. As such each user will personalise the device. Students will undertake tutorials addressing issues of responsible digital citizenship. Ownership of the iPad dramatically increases the responsibility students take for the device.

Is there an App that could enable students to do away with the College diary?

There is a calendar in the iPad that allows students to make notes relevant to that day. The College diary has a range of other functions outside the recording of daily homework.

How will the ability to use camera and video without consent or knowledge of staff be addressed? *The College has prepared a set of policies specifically addressing the use of technology. Most secondary schools permit students to have smartphones and iPods which are equally able to use photo and video. These policies will be made available on the College website. Students will be given specific training in digital citizenship.*

What security measures will the College have in place to ensure that the device is not stolen or damaged?

Primary students will leave their iPad in the locked classroom at breaks unless they are taking the device to the library. Secondary students will have a locker to secure their iPad when at breaks from lessons.

What are the College's procedures when an iPad is stolen?

As with any issues of theft, the College would investigate and endeavour to recover the iPad or resolve the matter. Students will be encouraged to password protect and label their iPad.

Who is responsible to replace the iPad if it is stolen, the College or parents?

The iPad is owned by the student or their family. If stolen, it is their responsibility to replace. The College insurance policy does not cover items owned by students or teachers.

Any advice regarding their use at home?

Students can be using the device to complete homework or assessments given in class. This work should be completed in a central location i.e. around the dining table rather than unsupervised in their bedroom. The parent obviously has outright control in determining the use of any technologies in the home setting. At the end of the night the iPad should be left to charge overnight in a common area, not in the child's bedroom.

The iPad is a very engaging device. Parents are recommended to set time limits for their child's use of the iPad beyond homework and research for assignments. Information regarding digital citizenship and cybersafety will be made available on the College website.

I don't feel comfortable with my child having an iTunes account or knowing my account details. How do I enable Apps to be placed on the device?

You, the parent, must be the owner of the iTunes account. For any purchases made you will receive an invoice by email. This way you can keep track of purchases. If you are uncomfortable with your account having a credit card attached, you can always remove the credit card details and just use iTunes cards to redeem your personal purchases.

Do Apps need to be downloaded at home?

No, Apps may be downloaded at College or at home.

I don't have WiFi at home? Will I need to get this? How much will this cost?

It would be most beneficial to have WiFi at home. Consult with your current internet provider about installing a WiFi modem.

What happens if you live in an estate that is unable to access any form of internet? Students will have access to the library before school, at lunch time and after school.

If I purchase an iPad with 3G or 4G capabilities, my child can text me and other students while they're at College, is this possible?

Yes, this is possible. This is already possible with a variety of mobile phones already being brought to College by students. However, messaging is not permitted during College hours (8:30am to 3:10pm). If it is necessary for home or parent contact to be made during College hours, it is to be done by a call from the parent/guardian to the College office, or a phone permission granted to the student by the Principal or Head of Junior School.

How about a drawing tablet and stylus pen so they can write and draw, like on paper? The iPad is a tablet. Students are welcome to use a stylus if they desire.

How will the iPad handle graphics/CAD applications?

There are Graphics (CAD) Apps available for the iPad. Computers will be available for curriculum areas requiring specialist software.

What technical support will be provided by the College for staff and student iPads?

The Catholic Education Office Toowoomba will provide support to College. Additionally, the College will employ a full time IT trainee.

Has the impact on posture of using an iPad rather than a laptop been considered? Can parents choose a laptop instead of an iPad if posture is an issue?

The position of the iPad on a desk is essentially the same as that for a text or exercise book. Parents concerned about posture may purchase a case that allows various angles for the screen. Some parents may even choose to purchase a separate keyboard – though this has not been found necessary in the schools that we have visited. Laptops are not an option as they will not be able to access the Apps.

Will the introduction of iPads increase school fees? The iPad is purchased by families separate to school fees. Costs of Apps and support of devices will be included in the school fee.