



Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School

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BYODD iPads for Learning 2018

6th November, 2017.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, for the last two years, our school has embarked on directions to enhance learning for the 21st century with the implementation of iPads for learning in the BYODD program. This program utilises parent-purchased iPads for students in Years 4, 5 & 6 in a seamless connection between home and school. The program has now been underway for most of 2016 and throughout 2017 and has closely followed the directions outlined in the document: [Our Vision for Learning in the 21st Century](#). I encourage parents to access this document which has much of the rationale and detail of the program.

As we approach 2018, we are supporting the next cohort of families towards implementation. Since implementing this initiative, a range of protocols, risk management strategies and expectations have been clearly defined by the school. We are now ready to provide information for next year's Year 4 to begin. Please [click here](#) to access all documentation outlined previously. Importantly, parents and students will have all protocols clearly articulated prior to commencing use next year and these will be reiterated as we get closer to implementation. To ensure future proofing over three years of expected updates, the *minimum* specifications for all iPads are:

iPad 32GB Wi-Fi. This is commonly referred to as the "*iPad (5th Generation)*". (We have been advised that previous iPad versions won't be linked as their connection can't be guaranteed for the three years of primary school, including anticipated update requirements.)

Covers are also required for the iPads and we also recommend the purchase of "**Apple Care+**".

Unfortunately iPads that don't comply with these specs (including iPad Minis) cannot be utilised as they won't be supported by the infrastructure provided by Catholic Schools Office.

The school provides some options for parents to acquire the iPad. The options are:

1. Parents may wish to purchase an iPad outright through retailers. This way you can take advantage of specials the school and CSO may not have access to. (It is important to ensure the minimum specs outlined above.)
2. Parents may order and purchase an iPad and cover, as well as AppleCare + outright through the school. This can be done in a single one off payment. Your family owns the iPad outright straight away in this option. Cost is **\$409.20** for the iPad, **\$42.90** for the cover & **\$97.90** for AppleCare.)
3. Parents may order an iPad and pay in instalments added to school fee invoices for up to two years. Progressive payments are made in the same way they exist for current payment of school fees. The iPad remains the property of the school until all payments have been made. Once all payments have been made ownership will transfer from the school. (**\$409.20** for the iPad, **\$42.90** for the cover & **\$97.90** for AppleCare.)

As always, the school will strongly support families whose financial circumstances make this cost too difficult. No child will be denied the opportunity to participate fully for financial reasons. **Please do not hesitate to contact me at school for a personal meeting if you are concerned about affordability.**

Next Steps

1. **All** parents/carers are asked to access feedback forms to indicate their method of acquiring iPad and cover. **[Click here](#)** to access information site and feedback form. Please complete this by **30th November**.
2. During December staff and myself will work closely with the children to drill expectations and protocols and parents will be kept up to date.
3. We ask children **not** to bring iPads in until the beginning of the 2018 school year. We will set up some days at the end of January where children may bring in their iPad so they can be configured for access here at school, and then revert to home access when the children leave our wireless environment. More information will be advised in that regard.

Applications for Download

As advised in our documentation, the school has strict policy guidelines and non-educational games will not be accessible at school. Parents will have the ability to download applications beyond those required at school; however our filter system will disable them when they use our Wi-Fi environment, making them only usable at home; The only applications that can be used at school will be educational ones. The list below outlines those we would like downloaded in time to start the 2018 school year. Most applications will be free and a small number of applications will have a minor cost.

Cost Applications Required	Free Applications Required
Puppet Pals Director's Pass - \$5.99 Book Creator - \$7.99 Explain Everything - \$5.99 Green Screen by Do Ink \$4.49	Google Slides Google Docs Google Earth iMotion Tellagami Voice Recorder See Saw: The Learning Journal Garage Band iMovie * Keynote * Numbers * Pages * Google Classroom Google Drive Google Sheets Aurasma Hopscotch

I thank parents in advance for the efforts to support the school and ultimately your child in his / her learning. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact the school and make a personal appointment, when I will be only too happy to meet you.

Kind Regards,



Mr Robert Peers.
PRINCIPAL