

FAQ - Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) at Applecross Primary School

The long-term goal at Applecross Primary School is for the continual and consistent integration of Digital Technologies to support learning within every classroom.



Why a 1:1 Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)?

An effective Digital Technologies program relies on technology being seamlessly integrated across the curriculum. The individual use of personal devices will enable students to reach their full potential in a supported and supervised environment. BYOD does not diminish the vital role of the teacher. On the contrary, it transforms the teacher from the holder of knowledge to the more powerful role of facilitator of learning. This approach is more responsive, current and specific to meet student needs at any point in time.

So I have no choice?

It is important to understand that the school's 1:1 BYOD program is not compulsory. Students who do not have access to their own device will continue to share the school purchased iPads. Shared devices are not permitted to leave the school.

Will my children still learn to read & write?

Yes! Literacy & Numeracy are top priorities at Applecross Primary. The iPad will enhance and extend these skills, providing learning opportunities that students cannot access through traditional methods. Students will use their iPads for learning, not gaming.

Why only one type of device?

The 1:1 BYOD program at Applecross Primary is incumbent on a familiar, compatible and common device throughout the school. This will enable teachers to support students with a set of familiar procedures and terminology that can flow into all classrooms and extend across all years over time.

Where can I buy an iPad?

iPads are available from a wide variety of retailers. We have negotiated with Winthrop Australia to provide families the opportunity to purchase or lease. Accessories including cover, keyboard, Apple Pencil and Apple EarPods.

So why Apple iPads?

Applecross Primary has invested heavily and already established an iPad culture in the school. This has included teacher professional learning, student use and hardware. Moving forward, the iPad offers many positives such as;

Stability & Security. The iPad operating systems, App Store and the device itself has the reputation of being robust and intuitive. Apps are tested and updated regularly making them easily accessible across all versions. Many include flexible off-line access when a Wi-Fi connection is not available. Security features and restrictions provided by Apple through the device can be activated. Internet traffic will continue to be filtered by the Department of Education's filter system.

Primary School Focused. The iPad device is well suited to primary school aged students being transportable, easily managed, easy-to-use and adaptable across a range of environments at home and school. The devices can be easily stored and used immediately making them highly responsive to supporting the learning environment. Apps recommended by the school are based on the needs of primary aged children and chosen for their dynamic and vibrant learning opportunities.

Economic. The cost effectiveness of the iPad is a consideration. A new iPad (from \$497) can be used over a number of years. Devices used after primary school may require more complex programming and keyboarding suited to secondary education. Accessories such as the Apple Pencil and Keyboard are optional.

My child already has an older iPad. Can I use that one?

If your family already has an iPad and you would like to send this to school with your child, you do not need to purchase a new device at this time – providing it is capable of operating within the required capacity and has IOS software version 15 or above installed (the recommended model is the iPad 9th generation, WiFi 64gb non-cellular). Be aware, older iPads have limited functions and may not support the required apps or have the operating system for assisted learning in the current environment.

What about security & care?

Your iPad is not covered for damage or loss by the school or Education Department's insurance policy. You should check your cover with your home and/or contents insurer. If you are purchasing a new device, you may wish to consider AppleCare for extra cover.

Teachers will manage the use of the iPad in their classroom. Students will not be able to access their iPad during the day without supervision. Students are not allowed to use their iPads during lunch or recess without permission.

What if the iPad does not function properly?

The school is not responsible for maintaining the iPad. It is expected that if you have purchased or leased a new iPad, you may have a limited warranty included. You could also purchase the

AppleCare protection plan directly on the device via the settings menu or from the Apple store/website. It is recommended that you discuss this with your supplier.

What are my responsibilities?

The iPad will need to be updated and charged ready to use each day. This will include adding apps and content to support the learning in the classroom. It is expected that this will happen at home in readiness for school the next day. iPads should be brought to school ready to use every day. In addition to the iPad and any accessories, you should budget an additional \$50 to purchase a choice of apps. Please make sure the relevant apps (see list) are on your child's BYOD iPad in preparation for learning experiences each day.

How will the internet be monitored?

Access to the internet is monitored by class teachers. Protections are in place via the Department of Education. These protections restrict students from accessing inappropriate content while connected to the school WIFI. However, no system is fool-proof. Students are provided with lessons about cyber-safety, appropriate use, and a Code of Conduct that they need to respect. If students fail in their use of the iPad (or any shared device) their access to their device and the school network will be restricted. Teachers will have their own iPad and use Apple Classroom to manage and monitor the flow of activity. Apple Classroom is a powerful iPad app that helps guide student learning, sharing of work and manages the devices. Teachers can control the launch of specific apps, websites or a textbook page on any iPad in the class. They can use the app to share work and see what students are working on. They are able to lock devices when necessary restricting access while the student is at school.

