

# 1:1 iPad PROGRAM FOR YEAR 3 to 6 STUDENTS



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Why this program?**

Under the Australian Curriculum, it is expected that students learn to use ICT effectively and appropriately to access, create, and communicate information and ideas, solve problems and work collaboratively in all learning areas at school. Together, the teachers and School Board have researched current ICT best practice in education and O'Connor Primary School's current and future capacity to deliver this. With this at the forefront, the School Board has strongly advocated the introduction of a 1:1 program. 1:1 programs are our next step towards individualising learning, which can increase independence and self-initiated learning in students, and extend their learning beyond the classroom.

### **How often will iPads be used in the classroom?**

While students will have their iPads with them and available for use throughout the school day, they will not be used in every lesson, and their use will vary from day-to-day depending on the learning focus. Like other learning tools, their use will depend on the particular learning activity, and will invariably involve other activities such as writing, reading, discussion and assessment.

As in a conventional classroom, there will be times when students will work independently and times where they will work collaboratively. Observations made by our own teachers show that collaboration, peer teaching and student engagement in co-operative tasks is enhanced by the iPad use in the classroom.

It is current Department of Education policy that teachers spend 50% of instructional time teaching literacy and numeracy, ie. *'the basics'*. iPads may supplement this teaching. Pen and paper will continue to be used every day in the classroom, just as it is currently. iPads are primarily a learning tool and not intended to replace pens and pencils. Much of the students' planning of their iPad activities will be conducted using pen and paper. And importantly, given the nature of school and national testing, the introduction of iPads will not detract from our teaching focus on legible handwriting.

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### **Why is the school not providing iPads for student use?**

The school is unable to fund a 1:1 iPad program. At O'Connor Primary, we currently have over 50 laptops, at least 100 desktops and more than 200 iPads for use across K-6. In recent years we have spent over \$90 000 on ICT. We have ensured access and opportunity, providing each K-3 class with pods of 6 iPads each and Year 4-6 classes with pods of 8 iPads. Each class also has an Interactive Whiteboard. While these ICT resources have been very welcomed in the school, ongoing funding at this level is not sustainable.

### **Why introduce iPads in Year 3?**

In Year 3, children's sense of themselves and the world expands, students' abilities to work collaboratively develops, increasingly students are learning from a wider range of sources, exploring a wider range of technologies and can reflect on their learning. Introducing the device in Year 3 means your child will have maximum use of it during the final four years of primary school.

The iPad program is **completely voluntary**. Students who do not have their own device will have shared access to school iPads.

### **Will my child be able to use their iPad in subsequent years?**

Yes, the students will use iPads in Year 4, 5 and Year 6.

### **What support will be provided to parents of Year 3 students?**

A meeting will be arranged for students and parents to address the care, management and handling of the iPads. Additional support will include parent workshops on cyber safety and appropriate home use. It is intended that ongoing support will be provided as required.

### **What protection/filtering will be in place to protect students?**

The school shares responsibility with parents, government and the community to protect our children from the impact of inappropriate material on the internet. Department of Education computer software management tool that blocks content, acts as a filter, and views student access online. Every internet request and download is recorded, logging user ID, time, page element accessed, size of element, method of access and the machine from which the request was made. The Department regularly monitors these logs for breaches.

O'Connor Primary School *Student Usage Policy and Parent Agreement* is signed by students and parents at the beginning of each year. A primary school classroom is a protective and ideal environment to teach students safe and effective internet use and cyber safety before high school.

The use of social networking is not permitted during school hours and there are restrictions on such sights.

### **What iPad should I buy?**

We recommend a recent iPad with 64GB. These can be purchased from a variety of recommended Apple resellers. Purchasing an older iPad may mean your device is unable to be updated and the compatibility of apps may become an issue in the future.

### **APPS**

You will be required to install apps on your child's iPad while at home in order for them to participate fully in the 1:1 iPad program. A list of apps which need to be installed on all iPads will be provided.

Information regarding app lists is provided in this package and support will be available at parent information sessions. O'Connor Primary School staff will not be able to install apps on your child's iPad. If you purchase the AppleCare Protection Plan for your iPad you are provided with 24/7 telephone support from Apple technical experts for 2 years. If you have problems installing apps they will provide assistance over the phone.

### **Do we need insurance? What happens if my iPad is damaged or broken?**

iPads brought to school are not covered by the O'Connor Primary School or the Department of Education's insurance.

Where iPads are purchased through Harvey Norman Kalgoorlie parents will be able to directly to the store to log the fault. Harvey Norman Kalgoorlie are currently negotiating with their service providers to have a small number of replacement units available locally.

Where the Insurance Option is not taken or the iPad is purchased independently or brought from home it needs to be covered under your own insurance. If the iPad is damaged at school it is the parents' responsibility to pay the insurance excess.

If you lease an iPad through Flexirent you have cover against theft, loss or accidental damage. There is a 3 day turn around for replacement when your device is in for repair.

Before your iPad can come to school you will be required to complete a form providing the serial number of your device and confirming you understand it is not covered by the school or Department of Education insurance policy.

The student and their family/caregivers assume full financial responsibility for the iPad in the event of damage, loss, theft and any other instance of negligence and/or abuse.

### **What else do I need to buy?**

When you purchase your iPad you will need to consider the following:

- Your iPad must be fitted with a protective case, front and back. Keep in mind the students will be using them to take photos and videos so ensure the cover can be held or moved to allow easy access.
- All Apple hardware comes with a one-year limited warranty and up to 90 days of complimentary telephone technical support. It is recommended you extend your coverage further with the AppleCare Protection Plan. If you purchase your device through the Harvey Norman Kalgoorlie or the Winthrop Australia portal you may select the 2 Year iPad AppleCare Protection Plan as an optional extra.
- Your iPad is not covered by the O'Connor Primary School or Department of Education insurance policy. You may wish to check with your home and/or contents insurer if your existing cover extends to an iPad being brought to school by your child. If you purchase your device through Harvey Norman Kalgoorlie or Winthrop Australia you may select insurance as an optional extra.

### **Security - Before, after and during school**

The security of the iPad is the responsibility of the parent/carer outside of school hours. iPads will not be allowed to be used before or after school in the school grounds. Students are not allowed to remove iPads from classes during lunch or recess. Classrooms will be kept locked and secure when the class is not in there. Students will be responsible to carry their iPads to a specialist class if required.

### **Will my child be able use the iPad during breaks at school?**

No. Students are strongly encouraged to develop an understanding of the importance of maintaining a balance of work and outdoor play throughout the day. Students are only permitted to use iPads in classrooms or other designated areas during class time unless given special permission.

### **Can my child have their iPad taken from them?**

If an iPad is used inappropriately or for the wrong reasons, a teacher may ask the child to put the iPad away. In some circumstances, the iPad may be stored in the office for the day. Children may be asked to leave their iPads home in more severe circumstances. Parents will be contacted on all occasions.

### **Will students be allowed to have music and games on the iPad?**

Students will be permitted to have legally downloaded music and games stored on the iPad. Parents are strongly encouraged to monitor the appropriateness of the games installed onto the iPad. Any non-educational apps must be grouped into a 'Home' folder.

### **How long will we have the device for?**

It is generally believed that an iPad will have a 2-3 year useful lifetime in terms of battery and processor performance.