



**Grange
Primary School**

**Bring Your Own Device
(iPad) FAQs**

**For Students and Parents
2017**

GPS BYOD (iPad) FAQs for Parents and Students

What's the added value of BYOD for my child? Is this really going to improve my child's achievement of the Australian Curriculum? Will I see an improvement in their NAPLAN scores?

Learning technologies are most effective when students have access to their own personal device, when they need it, not when it's their turn. It's also important for students to be using a personal device that has their own work on it, one that they can take home. Over the previous few years we have been using iPads as learning tools, we have noticed that children are more excited about showing their learning. They love to produce interactive or multimedia items to show what they have learned. This leads to a better connection with the skills, concepts and content being taught and learning outcomes improve. We can also use the iPads to give the children opportunities to find individualised, appropriately levelled information, time to practice skills and develop concepts in a variety of ways and again, this improves a child's understanding of a topic. While there is no concrete evidence to support that a 1:1 iPad programs improve NAPLAN scores compared directly to non 1:1 classrooms, retention rate of skills, concepts and content is more than double (Lee Crockett, 2014) which is highly evident at GPS.

How will the iPad be used on a daily basis in the classroom?

This depends entirely on the classroom, teacher and the tasks for the day. Initially the iPad replaces other classroom tools and improves the accessibility to the internet. As we move further along the journey and student and staff confidence increases, how this looks in the classroom will change to a deeper implementation of the technology into our teaching methodology.

Does this mean we're not using pens, paper and books anymore?

Students will still be using pens and paper as well as their iPads in class - students will have more choice in how they learn/show learning so they may choose to use books less and take notes, plan work and produce artefacts on their iPads rather than paper/pens.

Will parents be able to access student learning examples and assessment more regularly? Can we see what our students have been learning or their results on the iPad?

The iPads will come home each night so parents can sit with their child as often as they wish and talk through the learning items on the iPads. Teachers may email/give electronic assessments which would also be stored on the iPad. Just as parents can now come into classrooms and look through children's books, parents can "look through" the iPad! We see it as a learning tool, not a reporting tool. This will not transform our assessment into a system like universities where assessment items are submitted, marked and returned online. The vast majority of assessment and reporting which happens in primary schools is formative assessment (immediate feedback) which happens in the classroom every day and this will continue. Students will still receive written reports and assessments as they currently do.

What if my child's group work is on another iPad and the work is lost?

This happens in classrooms now! (On school iPads as well as group work done more traditionally) Students learn how to back up electronic work regularly. Often when work is lost, it is because these procedures have not been followed properly. It's a harsh learning curve and doesn't usually happen more than once or twice!

How will my child be assessed if they are working in a group on their iPads?

The same way that they are assessed for group work now - most teachers would use some form of rubric and groups would self-assess.

How will children back up their work? Where will my child's work be saved? How can it be accessed?

Students would be encouraged to use iCloud or another cloud storage facility to store copies of their work. Similarly, they should regularly back up their whole iPad to iCloud or a home computer through iTunes. There are apps that will allow students to send and store completed work on the classroom device.

Will my child still require access to a desktop or laptop computer at home for typed homework?

There shouldn't be any need for this UNLESS you do not have wireless internet at home and your child needs to access the internet for homework. Typing can be done on the iPad through a notes program or "Pages" which is the Apple equivalent of Word (provided for free by the school). Alternatively, if a student has access to a laptop or desktop and chooses to use this device at home to support their homework this is perfectly fine also.

Can my child bring a different device (eg Android) to cover the most common needs such as internet search, YouTube, photography, and just use the school iPads for the more specialised apps?

No, as mentioned elsewhere in this document, to connect to our internet and for technical support only one brand of device is allowed.

I've got more than one child in the school- how can I afford this?

Your children could share one iPad. When one child is using the personal iPad, the other child could use a school iPad if available (the same as other children in the class who do not bring their own iPad to school). If your children plan on sharing the iPad, insure you notify your children's teachers so they will be able to plan accordingly.

We've already done fundraising for iPads across the school, so why am I now being asked to provide an iPad?

Since increasing access to mobile devices through the efforts of the fundraising events like the 2015 Walk-a-thon, we've seen a big improvement with children's engagement with their learning through using digital tools - iPads and laptops – across the school. Assistive technology was introduced to aid students with learning difficulties. We immediately saw how better access and 1:1 use of an iPad could enhance students' learning through appropriately levelled content and use of creation apps to show learning. It is for this reason that we decided to introduce a BYOD (iPad).

Does this mean that the whole school is going 1:1 BYOD eventually?

In 2017, there are no plans for a whole school BYOD program to be introduced however, interested teachers will be electing to run a BYOD classroom.

Why has the school chosen iPads as the device? What about the constant updates and upgrades? Will the OS updates be controlled by the school, or can we install updates when we want to?

School technical support and teacher support for students using devices can only stretch so far therefore, we decided to go with one platform only, and that is iPad. iPads are easily able to connect to the school WIFI, unlike android devices. Another reason for choosing iPads is that in the iTunes Store, any app purchased through the education section is

guaranteed not to have in-app purchases. With regards to updates, it will be the responsibility of the individual students to ensure that their personally own iPads are updated regularly. Updates can be installed whenever you wish at home.

Apart from the cost of the iPad, what other costs will I incur? Do we need to buy a case/stand as well?

You will need to make sure that your home insurance covers the iPad while it is away from home and being used at school. It is highly recommended that a sturdy “kid-proof” case is purchased for the iPad in case of drops! It is your choice if you choose to buy a case with keyboard or not. It will depend on your child’s preference. The school has put together a list of apps. Individual teachers will select which app they will use for the core list. We ask that all students purchase those apps. Your child may ask you to purchase other apps for them and these might incur a cost BUT as the parent, it is your prerogative to say no.

What about when my child leaves GPS and goes to High School?

Historically, a large number of students attend Henley High after GPS which is a technology school. We highly recommend contacting your intended High School if you have any further questions.

What model is being recommended? How much storage space is likely to be needed? If I buy the 3G model, can we stop 3G from being used at school and costing us extra money? Why can't I provide a 3G or 4G enabled iPad/iphone?

We recommend a minimum of 32GB if you are purchasing a new iPad or iPad mini. iPad2s are no longer supported with software updates. Please be aware that any content on the iPad must adhere to GPS ICT user agreements ie lyrics of songs, content of documents and emails MUST be Primary school appropriate and as mentioned elsewhere in these FAQs, teachers and the leadership team must have permission to have full access to all content on any device brought into school as part of the BYOD (iPad) program. It is recommended that parents do not purchase a 4G model as when a SIM card is inserted, these can bypass the web filtering systems mandated by the Education Department and **must not** be used at school (as well as costing you money!) However, if you have an older iPad that *is* 3G or 4G enabled and you want your child to use it for school, you MUST remove the SIM card to stop non-DECD web access.

Does my child have to use the iPad at home? Does my child have to bring it home every evening or perhaps just if needed for homework? Will there be somewhere secure at school to store iPads overnight?

iPads will need to be taken home each night to be charged. There are no secure, lockable charging stations available at GPS for student-owned iPads overnight. If iPads were to be locked in a teacher’s cupboard overnight, they would not be able to be charged. If a child accidentally leaves their iPad on their desk after school, the teacher will place it in the child’s tray and lock the classroom door as usual.

How can I maintain balance? I don't want my child pressured into having certain games or social media, or being ostracised for not getting involved in these apps. How can this be addressed in the classroom?

Just as you control how much TV, Xbox style gaming and device/computer use is currently happening in your house, the same would be true for your child's use of the iPad. You are the parent, you are in charge. Social media sites recommend that children are at least 13 years old before signing up for accounts. In fact, on most accounts, in the terms and conditions that everyone ticks while setting up an account, there is usually a statement that says "I am over 13". As the parent, it is up to you if you want to allow your child to make a false statement on these accounts. Under-age use of social media sites causes a lot of angst among young people as they do not have the social and emotional maturity to use the sites properly. GPS would never ask you to allow your child to create a social media account which was not recommended for children of primary school age. At GPS, we have a strong cyber-safety program and as part of our Health curriculum, we deliver the SA Child Protection Curriculum which teaches children how to deal with online issues caused by social media as well as other bullying situations, peer pressure, etc.

What about ergonomic considerations? What controls/restrictions are available for parents to use on the iPad?

This is a valid question and "balance" is required. It is important that you monitor all your child's use of TV, X-box style gaming and computer/device time. In the classroom, laptops and iPads are often used in short bursts and children are often "on the move" and physical issues are not as important than as at home where they may sit on the sofa, playing a game and time slips away and before you know it, they have been on the iPad for a long time and have a sore neck. There are some good "restriction" features on the iPad that we will show parents eg how to set a shutdown time for the iPad as well as locking the iPad to only using a certain app until unlocked. A practical, how-to "hands-on" workshop will be held early in Term 1 2017 to help parents set up these restrictions.

What if my child's iPad is lost or stolen?

Staff at GPS will take all the necessary precautions to ensure that iPads are safely stored while at school. You will need to insure your child's iPad through your home insurance. It is highly recommended that you contact your insurance company and double check that your insurance covers you for an iPad brought to school. If the iPad was lost or stolen, you would make a police report and there would usually be an excess to pay as part of your insurance policy. GPS will accept no responsibility for any personal devices that are lost or stolen while at school or travelling to and from school. It is also highly recommended that you enable "find my iPad" on your child's iPad so that it can be more easily found if misplaced. This will also be explained at the parent info session.

What if another student breaks my child's iPad?

We use restorative justice practices at GPS and natural consequences would occur for deliberate and malicious damage of any child's property. Leadership would investigate the situation and work with families to come to an acceptable resolution.

If we use the iPad as a family, how do I keep our data, photographs etc private during school? What is an Apple ID? Why shouldn't I share my own ID with my child?

It is strongly recommended that your child's iPad has its own Apple ID, managed by you, not linked to a credit card. This will be explained in more detail at the parent info

session. If you have information of a private nature on the iPad, there is absolutely no guarantee that other people will not access it. In fact, it is part of the user agreement that teachers and leadership have permission to access all apps, content and storage areas of the iPad.

What if I don't provide an iPad for my child?

Your child will be able to use a school owned iPad which the teacher borrows out for them for single lessons or as needed, as is the case now. They would not be able to use an iPad 1:1, whenever they want to.

Students' FAQs

Why can't I charge my iPad at school?

It is an Education Department rule that any power cord is tagged and tested by a qualified electrical tester. You may have seen the labels on equipment at school that has a plug on it. If you charge your iPad overnight at home and bring it to school fully charged, it will not need to be charged during the day.

Will my iPad use be monitored (by the school) at home like it is at school? (where Mr Grant can see everything kids write)

GPS leadership cannot monitor your iPad use at home. Just as we do with all other school iPads, laptops and computers, we will monitor your iPad use as soon as it connects to the school network each morning.

Can you connect to the school internet/WIFI after school hours and weekends?

The iPad network will be available for a certain amount of time after school so that students who need to complete homework at OSHC can do so. At a set time of day and over weekends, school holidays, the iPad network will be switched off.

Are we allowed to play non-educational games on the iPads at school?

No.

Do I have to get someone to log me in to the network every day?

No. Once your iPad has the settings installed, the network will "remember" you and let you join each day.

Will there be restrictions? What will they be?

Your parents may add restrictions at home - this is okay - they are in charge! The usual internet restrictions will apply to your device as to any other device using the school network.

Can I use my iPad at lunch and recess?

No

Can we use it during free time?

If your teacher says you can work on a personal project once you have completed any set learning tasks in the classroom, you may be allowed to use your iPad for these times. The rule about non-educational games will apply at these times.

Do we get to know the password to log in to the school WIFI?

The network password that your iPad will use is separate to the actual school network password. All you will need to know is your computer log in and password.

Would I use the iPad for dictionaries etc in spelling time?

Of course!

What sort of device can I bring?

You can bring any type of iPad

What type of case would we need?

We suggest you get a “kid proof” case that will withstand a few accidental drops of your iPad!

What if someone else breaks your iPad?

If you are making sensible choices this should never happen. In the rare event that an iPad is broken, just as if someone broke your personal property now, the same natural consequences would apply and the leadership team would be involved. Leadership would investigate the situation and work with students and families to come to an acceptable resolution.

What happens if it gets stolen or lost?

Your parents will need to make sure that your iPad is covered under their home insurance so that they can make a claim if your iPad is lost or stolen. The school will not accept any responsibility for any lost or stolen iPads.

What about safety and security in school?

Your iPad will be kept locked inside your classroom during recess and lunch or if you are all out of the room for any reason eg Japanese. For this reason, the teachers no longer allow students to return to classrooms during recess or lunch to collect hats, money, return books from “catch up”, etc.

Why can't anyone bring their iPads to school?

Only students who have signed the BYOD user agreement form will be allowed to bring their own iPad to school.

References

<http://www.tomsguide.com/us/mobile-security-guide,review-1918-5.html>