



**Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)
iPad Program**

Frequently Asked Questions

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About BYOD at Beckenham

Why is Beckenham Primary School introducing a BYOD iPad program?

Beckenham Primary School currently has a **shared iPad model** where each classroom has six iPads that are shared amongst all students in the classroom. This current arrangement makes it extremely difficult for teachers to use the iPads to their full capacity to enhance student learning.

There are several schools close by that are considered 'like schools' to Beckenham Primary School who have successful BYOD programs. We believe this puts our students at a disadvantage when it comes to your child learning vital 21st Century ICT skills such as:

1. Critical thinking skills
2. Collaboration with others within the school and beyond
3. Creativity
4. Skilled communication
5. Problem solving
6. Use of ICT to support learning

We would like to close this equity gap by giving your child the same opportunity as other students by implementing the BYOD program at Beckenham Primary School.

Why should parents pay for something that is essentially an education expense?

We would like to offer our students enhanced opportunities to utilise technology to support their learning. This shared cost allows us to maintain equity with students from other schools who are already using this model to develop greater skill, efficiency, citizenship and learning outcomes. Without this parent contribution, state schools are unable to maintain a 1:1 program.

Why iPads as opposed to Laptops?

The long battery life of iPads means that students can make it through an entire day without recharging. The iPad allows for easy face to face interaction, avoiding the barrier between students and teachers that occurs with a traditional laptop lid. The iPad's small size fits conveniently in student personal classroom drawers, or at the top of their desk, as well as in their backpacks. The lightweight device is not an additional strain on young children's backs as they carry them to and from school.

In addition, the iPads' instant on/off capability preserves class time for meaningful learning activities; so, learning is not put on hold while a traditional laptop boots up, signs in, and shuts down. Many times, shared laptops are not signed out by the previous user correctly, so time is wasted finding the student in the school to sign out from the device.

By using an app, teacher can monitor and control student iPads from their own iPad in the classroom. With the same app, parents can also do this at home. This includes disabling the iPad after certain times or time being used. Apps can also be disabled the same way. This is unable to be achieved using a laptop.

Do we have a choice to be part of the BYOD program?

Yes, you have a choice. The BYOD program is **not** compulsory. Students who are unable to provide their own iPad for use in the classroom will have access to shared devices where feasible. They will not be permitted to share privately owned devices. The school will maintain a limited bank of shared devices for this purpose, but these will remain at the school and students may not have access to the same device each time.

Do other schools have a BYOD Program?

Yes, an increasing number of primary schools have 1:1 programs. We have researched schools and spoken to schools who have successfully implemented programs and used their programs to inform our own school planning.

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Purchasing Requirements

What is the recommended iPad I need to purchase?

The **minimum** requirement for an iPad is:

1. Can operate the latest iOS/iPad software.
2. 32GB of storage.

Anything smaller (or older) than this model may have difficulty in terms of storage and compatibility. New, or larger iPads will also work effectively and will likely remain compliant for longer.

Our **recommended** requirements are:

1. The 10.2-inch **64Gb** 9th Generation iPad with Wi-Fi. There may be a new model available by the start of 2024. This can be bought through [Winthrop Australia](#).
2. A sturdy protective cover.

Additional options include:

1. A Lightning port wired tablet keyboard, **OR**
2. An integrated cover and keyboard that connects using Apple Smart technology.
3. A set of wired headphones.
4. An Apple Pencil/Logitech Crayon for iPad.
5. [AppleCare+](#) and/or insurance against breakage.

Student iPads are not covered by our school's insurance.

Please note:

- The iPad mini is not deemed suitable as the size will not be appropriate for online testing such as NAPLAN and PAT testing.
- If you choose to purchase a keyboard, please ensure it attaches to the iPad via a **Lightning** connection cable. Bluetooth connected keyboards are problematic and drop in and out when there are multiple devices in the same classroom.

Can I use an older iPad?

A new iPad does not have to be purchased to be part of the BYOD iPad program. An existing one from your household can be used to support student learning at school.

Students can use any iPad (excluding iPad mini) that is still able to use the latest operating system (currently iOS15). Older iPads may over time have reduced

functionality and not be able to utilise all the required apps.

Can I supply an Android tablet device?

No, the decision has been made to use iPads in the school. This ensures consistency within the classroom, assists with teacher professional learning and because iPads are already used as shared devices, we know they work efficiently on the school's ICT network.

What is the life expectancy of an iPad?

As determined by the standard Apple warranty, the life expectancy of an iPad is 2 years. However, it is reasonable to expect an iPad that has been looked after has a life expectancy of approximately 5+ years and will last for the duration of primary school and beyond.

What else will I need to buy?

While not compulsory, it is recommended you also purchase a keyboard for the iPad. If you do purchase a keyboard, make sure it is one that plugs into the iPad via the Lightning connector, not a Bluetooth keyboard, as these are not effective when there are multiple Bluetooth devices located in the same classroom.

It is also recommended to purchase a set of wired headphones, but not compulsory.

Parents will also be required to purchase apps up to a limit of \$25 that will be used by the student.

Where can I get my BYOD iPad?

You can purchase the iPad from any retailer of your choice.

In addition, Beckenham Primary School is teaming up with [Winthrop Australia](#) who will offer iPads, accessories and insurance at competitive prices.

Can I bring in an iPad after the start of the school year?

Yes, you can bring an iPad at any stage. However, it is recommended that students start the year with their iPad to benefit from the initial instruction and protocols.

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Looking After the iPad

Who will insure the iPad against accidental damage or theft?

Parents will need to ensure the iPad is insured through their personal home and contents insurance. The school will not take responsibility for insurance.

What if my child's iPad is broken or stops working?

The school is not able to cover any loss, theft, or damage to student iPads. Parents are encouraged to consider:

1. [AppleCare+](#) in addition to the warranty period associated with the purchase of the iPad.
2. Home and contents insurance.

All efforts will be made to ensure that iPads remain safe and secure, and instructions given to the students on how to care for their iPad.

We recommend that iPads are engraved or labelled with student/family name.

Responsibilities

Will iPads replace paper and pencil, and more importantly, literacy and numeracy?

NO! The students will continue to be taught these learning areas using explicit direct instruction. The iPads will support learning in all subject areas and provide enhanced communication and collaboration opportunities. In addition, iPads will not become a substitute for handwriting, nor reduce the rigour of our explicitly taught curriculum.

How much time will my child spend on an iPad each day?

This will vary with the type of activities and tasks the students will complete on the device. Some days it may be no more than 20 minutes on one task whilst other days it could be several times a day. In any event, the iPad will be a vital learning tool in the classroom, the same way student stationery items are.

It is important to understand the daily use of the iPad will be to create, communicate and collaborate, to research information and reinforce skills and knowledge. The iPad will be used in conjunction with other learning areas (for example, reading, writing,

and maths). Students will not be using an iPad without these principles underlying the focus on the lesson.

Learning first, technology second!

If the students are not using the iPad all day, why do they need their own iPad?

In the same way that children have their own stationery, exercise books and scrapbooks, we believe students should also have their own iPad to optimize their learning. Just as we would not have students sharing an exercise book or scrapbook with each other, the same idea applies to BYOD iPads.

In addition, there are apps freely available for the iPads that can digitally replace scrapbooks and exercise books and students in Years 5 and 6 are already using these. This is potentially a huge environmental benefit and cost reduction for parents each year.

Will my child have to share the iPad that I paid for?

No. The iPad that you purchase is for your child only. Students will not be requested to share their iPad with any other student.

Who will be responsible for charging the iPad?

iPads will need to be charged at home. We believe Year 4 to 6 students are capable of being responsible for ensuring their iPad is charged each night, ready for school the following day.

What happens if my child forgets their iPad?

If a shared school iPad is available, they may use one of these.

How will the iPad be secured at school?

Students will not be permitted to use the iPad in the school grounds before school, at break times or immediately after school. iPads will remain in school bags and brought into the classroom at 8:30am, when released from the morning supervision.

On arrival in the classroom, students will remove their iPad from the school bag and take it inside where it will be stored safely. During the day, the classroom will be locked when no one is present.

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Appropriate Use

How will the Internet be monitored?

The student's internet use will be closely monitored when in the classroom, both physically and through [Apple Classroom](#). The students will utilise the Department of Education's Wi-Fi and the associated filters. Any inappropriate use of the internet will be immediately identified through the school's ICT Dashboard which is monitored by the school's Executive team and the Department of Education. In addition, parents are required to agree to and sign the "Years 4-6 BYOD iPad Program Agreement" before iPads can be brought to school and any violation of this agreement will result in the loss of ICT privileges for a period determined by the seriousness of the incident.

What happens if the iPad is not used appropriately at school?

The iPad will be monitored by the Department of Education for inappropriate use. The school also has localised monitoring systems, and the teacher can monitor use in the classroom using Apple Classroom and being vigilant in the classroom. If a breach of the "Years 4-6 BYOD iPad Program Agreement" takes place, the school's Behaviour Management Policy will be followed, as it is now with the school's shared devices.

At the time of enrolments or at the beginning of Year 4, students, and parents sign "Online Acceptable Usage Agreement for Students in Years 4 to 6" indicating they agree to the terms and conditions of having an iPad at school.

Will my child be taught about safe and appropriate use of the internet?

Yes. At Beckenham Primary School, our Digital Technologies Curriculum includes cyber safety and netiquette lessons to ensure students are educated on the importance of digital safety and citizenship.

Can the iPad have Social Media apps installed on it?

The short answer is **NO!**

As per the Department of Education guidelines, Internet and Online Services provided to students will primarily be used for learning related activities and

require informed parental consent, user agreements and appropriate management.

The youngest age requirement for a social media account is 13 years of age, some are even older. Most social media sites set minimum age requirements and require the account holder to declare they are the correct age. **No primary school aged child is the correct age for a social media account.** This is primarily for safety reasons as young children do not understand the dangers of cyber predators, and because younger people have not yet developed the good judgement to know what is appropriate to post and what is not. Children are also exposed to adult content which can be suggestive or explicit on social media.

For these reasons, **no social media apps will be allowed on the student's BYOD iPad.** We understand the iPad is privately owned by parents/guardians, however, to minimise risk of inappropriate content, we do not support students having access to and using social media whilst at school. This includes students accessing accounts via internet browsers.

It is the parent's responsibility to ensure all social media apps are deleted from the iPad prior to them being brought to school. Any iPad found with inappropriately aged social media accounts will be taken from the child and parents/guardians will be contacted to discuss the misuse of the device.

Does the school have a policy on appropriate use of iPads at school?

Yes, the Education Department has several documents related to iPad use in schools. These include the Students Online Policy, Information Communication Technologies Security Policy and Procedures and Student Online Guidelines. The school requires students and parents participating in the BYOD Program to sign a BYOD Agreement that outlines the agreements for all users. This agreement will need to be signed by parents and students and returned before use of a device at school. These documents are available through the Beckenham Connect page.

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

The school has a shared responsibility, along with parents, the government and the community to protect children from the impact of inappropriate material on the internet. The Department of Education has a sophisticated School Internet Gateway or firewall that blocks content, acts as a filter and continually monitors students access online.

Every internet request and download is recorded, logging user ID, time, method of access and the device from which the request was made. The Department regularly monitors these logs for breaches.

In addition, the Digital Technologies curriculum includes cyber safety in its scope and sequence.

What mechanisms are available to allow parents to control iPad usage out of hours?

iPads come with restrictions that can be set up to allow parents to manage, monitor and strictly control what apps and access children have on their iPads. As well as the websites they can go to. Visit [Parental Controls](#) for more information on how to set restrictions.

What will happen if the device is not being used properly?

All students must sign the BYOD Student Agreement. If they are not meeting the requirements of this agreement, their access to using their device and/or the school network may be restricted for a period of time.

How will the internet be monitored?

Direct internet access will be monitored by classroom teachers through the [Apple Classroom](#) app. To support this, protections are also in place via the Department of Education while connected to the school Wi-Fi network. These protections restrict students from accessing inappropriate websites.

iPad Apps

How will I get the apps that my child requires?

An Apple ID is required to download apps from the iTunes store. Please visit [Apple ID](#) if you need to set up an account to be used with your child's device.

We recommend a parent/guardian email is used as an Apple ID so careful monitoring of the account can occur. We do not recommend credit card details are saved onto the iPad.

All iPads that are brought to school and used for the BYOD program must have an iPad monitoring app installed. This app is [Apple Classroom](#) and will be used to supervise and manage your child's iPad in the classroom and must be installed before the iPad is brought to school.

What happens if I do not have an Apple ID or do not know how to set up the device?

The school will be running sessions at the beginning of Term 1 2023 to assist families with setting up the device. Several staff will also be available during the year for issues that cannot be solved at home.

What happens if my iPad is not functioning properly?

Teachers at Beckenham Primary School can help with network connectivity issues.

- If you purchased [AppleCare+](#), you will have 24/7 technical support and an extended warranty. Your first option would be to access the support provided by Apple experts through [AppleCare+](#).
- Depending on where you purchased your iPad, you will need to refer to the warranty you selected at the point of sale. This is often a 1-year warranty.