

Flagstaff Hill E-Learning Program Frequently Asked Questions

As promised, this document will be updated as often as required to provide the answers to commonly asked questions.

Updated 21st August 2021

What if I don't want to or I am not able to provide my child with an iPad?

A limited amount of school owned iPads will be available in trolleys for teachers to book out for the use of students without their own at specific times each week. Unfortunately, there may not be enough iPads available to provide all students who do not have their own with a school provided device on a permanent basis.

What is the link to purchase the device through the JB Hi-Fi portal? What is the school code?

<https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod/>? The school code is Flagstaff2021

The portal will be updated with the new model iPad in mid September 2021.

Is it compulsory for my Year 3-6 child to have an iPad in 2022?

The program is not compulsory but it is highly recommended and to date approximately 94% of students are bringing their own iPad to school.

Do students need the keyboard and pencil?

These accessories are recommended but optional. Those students who have them will no doubt use them however they are not essential, and can always be purchased in the future if so desired. Teachers have iPads, keyboards and pencils and will use the functionality of each.

Why would I buy the keyboard options on the portal over cheaper typical (bluetooth) eBay options?

- STM Keyboard doesn't require separate batteries or need charging. Connects via the 3pin connector on the iPad
- When folded back 180° the keyboard disables. No need to turn off or detach.
- Features storage for the Apple pen or Logitech Crayon.
- The Keyboard is robust and designed to prevent keys being pried off.
- Has Siri and Screenshot keys.
- It's a rugged quality case design with Education in mind.

What will students use their iPads for?

The intention of the program is that the iPads will become a tool for students to use many times throughout the day, in much the same way as their pencil case. It's not for a particular subject, it's designed to be used in every subject in a wide variety of ways including PE, Japanese and Music. The iPad will provide students with many alternate ways for them to demonstrate their learning eg. instead of writing/drawing pictures, they can create a movie with voice over to demonstrate what they've learned; they can use them for research at their finger tips, to save and prepare work for class and assessments, they can use them for oral presentations screen mirrored up to the class TV, for coding, they can watch/listen to videos the teacher records/creates to go over content and tasks, participate in collaborative problem solving work with peers, they are used to help them become more organised with saving of files, sharing work and using to do lists etc.

The iPads are not used all day every day, rather they are available as a tool to enhance learning opportunities at specific times.

Why do currently owned iPad's need to be wiped/reset prior to being added to Meraki?

Our school E-Learning program is being established to ensure that iPads can only access school approved sites, apps and functionality during school hours. For this to be effective, iPads will be 'managed' by the school whether they are purchased through the JB Hi-Fi portal or not. The devices purchased through the portal are automatically enrolled into Meraki whereas existing devices need to be manually enrolled. This process involves a factory reset which means existing data/photos etc on the iPads will be wiped. We know this is disruptive, however the process ensures iPads are in a consistent state ready for the classroom and teachers can maximise the learning benefit of the iPads, rather than being bogged down, dealing with technical issues with personalised iPads such as iPads out of storage, inappropriate apps, inappropriate content and misconfiguration of iPads, as well as connectivity issues.

When will currently owned iPads be added to Meraki manually?

We hope to be able to do this in the week before school starts in January however the process is time consuming and turn around time is estimated to be up to 5 business days.

After the school year, do parents have access to remove the device from Meraki?

Upon students leaving the school, the iPad can and will be removed from Meraki. This process is extremely quick and will be complete before your child leaves Flagstaff Hill or within a day or so of this occurring.

Can I purchase an iPad elsewhere for my child or can they bring their existing iPad to school?

It is preferred that you purchase through the provided portal because these iPads will be automatically added to the Device Enrolment Program (DEP), which in turn will automatically be enrolled in Meraki Systems Manager (our choice of MDM solution). Automatic enrollment ensures that devices are configured based on the school's requirements, and guarantees that all students receive those configurations on their iPads. Our students' iPads are also locked in MDM for ongoing management.

If your child has access to an existing iPad owned by your family, it can be used instead of purchasing a new device however it must be manually enrolled into Meraki Systems Manager (MDM). Please note, this process does reset the iPad to factory settings effectively deleting all content.

No iPad can be used in the school setting which is not enrolled in the MDM.

Why do devices need to be enrolled in Meraki Systems Manager?

Many schools use MDM systems because it allows us to configure iPads to have the correct settings and for us to push out school purchased apps to devices in a timely manner. There are many advantages to the use of this system and the Department for Education provide the Meraki Systems Manager (MDM) to schools at no cost because it is a highly recommended approach which we have committed to at Flagstaff Hill.

The iPad can be used to download any apps and used in any way that you allow at home outside of school hours. A time restriction setting is applied to the iPads effectively locking them down during school hours to the restricted apps used for learning purposes. This has the added benefit that we can push out school provided apps and configurations to multiple iPads at once quickly as well as providing teachers with the option to circulate tasks/websites etc to the whole class. It also means that apps like iMessage are switched off during school hours. This time stamp feature is one of the key reasons that we have opted to use the Department provided Meraki Systems Manager to manage our devices.

iPads will be personally owned so will downloading Apps/Games be limited and if so to what level?

The primary purpose of the iPad is to enhance student learning and it is desirable to not have unnecessary games and apps on the iPads consuming memory/CPU (speed). That said, there will be a process when we are setting up Meraki to determine 'school hours' so that outside of these, it will be possible to relax these restrictions, so apps can be installed and played with minimal restrictions. Please note that when children have a lot of apps/photos/videos on their devices the memory can be used quite quickly and cause the device to run more slowly. At the end of the day, if the iPad is running slowly then families can determine which apps/photos etc need to be removed to free up some space

Will my child's personal iPad be shared?

No your child's iPad is only for their personal use.

What apps will my child need?

Any school required apps will be pushed out automatically to student devices through Meraki.

How do I create an Apple ID

The creation of an Apple ID allows you to access the App Store and iTunes Store. Students under 13 years old must not create their own iTunes account or purchase iTunes vouchers without parent assistance. An Apple ID is not required for student iPads however you may choose to investigate this for home use.

Does the school have a policy on acceptable use of the iPad at school?

Yes, we do. Students (and parents) will be required to sign an updated agreement for using iPads and ICT tools at school. Any inappropriate use of the Internet will be deemed unacceptable and subject to disciplinary action and may include suspension or exclusion from the school network.

Will students have access to the internet on their personal BYO iPads at school?

Yes, students will have access to the internet. All internet access is monitored via the school network monitoring and filtering system. As part of internet access all students will be taught appropriate and safe use of accessing online resources. All internet access is under teacher supervision.

How will teachers supervise the use of iPads?

Teachers will supervise students as they would for any learning activity as they create and maintain a safe, comfortable and learning-focused classroom. Appropriate use of the Internet service within the Department for Education network is closely monitored by a filtering system, which allows for inappropriate content blocking by a regularly updated list of categories and sites. This does not apply to use of devices outside of the school network. All iPads are monitored by the classroom teacher using the Apple Classroom app.

How will iPads be secured at school?

Students will not be permitted to use iPads in the school grounds, before school, at recess or lunch, or after school, unless under direct supervision by a teacher. Upon arrival at school, students will be required to store their iPad in the classroom. Classrooms will be routinely locked when no one is present. iPads will be expected to remain in bags before and after school. Students will be strongly advised to keep their iPads in their fully zipped school bag when travelling between home and school. OSHC have systems in place to secure iPads before and after school.

What if the device is damaged or lost?

The school will not be responsible for warranty and insurance for students' personal iPads if they are lost or damaged. Therefore a good quality cover/ hard case and screen protector for the iPad are strongly recommended. We recommend parents consult their home and contents insurance to determine if their iPad is covered at school and in transit to school. Insurance for accidental damage available for the iPad through AppleCare+

<http://www.apple.com/au/support/products/ipad.html>

What about a Samsung or similar option?

This question is answered in the general information document on our website:

<https://flagstaff.sa.edu.au/uploads/E-Learning/Flagstaff-Hill-E-Learning-Program-General-Information.pdf>

Are there subsidies for the cost of purchasing iPads?

Other than the negotiated education pricing through JB Hi-Fi, there is no subsidy available. The program is optional and children who do not have their own will have access to school owned devices which are shared.

Can my child use the device which their older sibling used in previous years?

Yes, definitely. The device would just need to be brought to school the week before Term 1 commences to be reset.

Will my child be disadvantaged during home learning if he/she does not have their own iPad?

With so many children having their own in 2021 it certainly made home learning a breeze by comparison to 2020. The small amount of children who did not have their own in 2020 were able to take home a school device for use during home learning (this is of course limited by how many devices the school has available).

How is safe and appropriate use of ICT taught to students?

The ICT capability as part of the Australian Curriculum develops students' knowledge, skills and dispositions around ICT and its use, and the ability to transfer these across environments and applications. Students learn to use ICT with confidence, care and consideration, understanding its possibilities, limitations and impact on individuals, groups and communities. Additionally, SA Police attend the school and talk to students about Cyber Safety annually.

What about developing students' handwriting skills?

Developing a legible, fluent and automatic handwriting style remains a focus as per the English learning area within the Australian Curriculum.

Will families be supported to ensure their children's safe use of the iPad outside school hours?

The restrictions on iPads/internet filtering/use of apps etc is only in place during the hours 8:30am - 3:30pm Monday to Friday (not including public holidays/school holidays).

There are a number of resources available for you to investigate options to monitor your children's use of their devices including:

- [Use parental controls on your child's iPhone, iPad and iPod touch – Apple Support](#)
- [Online safety for children & families – Google Safety Centre](#)
- [Parent resources | eSafety Commissioner](#)

Another option is a network based internet filter, that cannot be easily bypassed and includes age based filtering. There are a few out on the market, but Circle gets reasonable reviews.

<https://meetcircle.com/> - award-winning parental controls let you manage screen time and monitor not just some, but ALL websites and apps. With our complete in-home and on the go solution, you set the rules for sites like YouTube, TikTok, HouseParty (and many more) across all your family's connected devices.