Flagstaff Hill E-Learning Program
Frequently Asked Questions

This document will be updated as often as required to provide the answers to commonly asked questions.

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.

Is it compulsory for my Year 3-6 child to have an iPad in 2024?

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.

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.

After the school year, do parents have access to remove the device from School Management System?

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

Where can I purchase an iPad ?

iPads can be purchased through any retail supplier, the iPad will be enrolled in the school's MDM (Mobile Device Management) system. No iPad can be used in the school setting which is not enrolled in the MDM.

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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). 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 MDM.

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.

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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

Can my child use the device which their older sibling used in previous years?
Yes, definitely, provided that they meet the iPad requirements outlined on our website:
https://flagstaff.sa.edu.au/uploads/E-Learning/Flagstaff-Hill-E-Learning-Program-Student-Requirements.pdf

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?
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.

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