



ST BENEDICT'S SCHOOL

70 Alness St, APPLECROSS WA 6153

Telephone: 6217 3500
Email: admin@stbenedicts.wa.edu.au

ABN: 87 303 594 298
www.stbenedicts.wa.edu.au

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

SECTION A – THE COSTS INVOLVED

1. Why do parents have to fund this?

The school simply does not have the financial resources to fund iPads for every Year 3-6 student. The only way it could be funded would be to increase school fees by a corresponding amount, which is the same effect as parents acquiring the iPads directly.

2. What is the full cost to me as a parent?

The One to One iPad program will utilise the Apple iPad. *The minimum model required is the 64gb iPad Air 2 WIFI only. The recommended spec is the 128gb iPad Air 2 WIFI only.*

If a cellular model is purchased, due to possible breaches of internet security, the 3G sim will need to be removed from the device before entering the school.

To protect the iPad from accidental damage, it is also recommended that a sturdy cover that securely protects the corners and the screen of the iPad is also purchased. A cover with a Bluetooth keyboard can also be purchased but is not essential.

It is envisaged that the cost to parents for the required iPad package will be around \$750 - \$800, which excludes insurance costs. The current market and particular specifications adopted by the school (eg. required apps) will determine final prices but are expected to be close to this price.

3. What happens if my son/daughter already has an iPad?

Great. If your child already has an iPad at home and it meets the minimum requirements we recommend they use it. It will need to be wiped for ZuluDesk to be installed and the Apps to be uploaded.

5. What if I simply can't afford to buy an iPad for my child?

Please see the Principal in cases of genuine financial hardship to discuss your particular circumstances and alternative options.

6. Do the iPads come with a warranty? Will the iPads be insured or do I need to arrange this myself?

Yes and No. iPads come with a 12-month Limited Warranty.

http://images.apple.com/legal/warranty/docs/NA_iPad_Warranty_v20.pdf

However, this warranty does not cover accidental damage, loss or theft. It is highly recommended that parents fully insure their child's iPad. This may be done through your own personal Home & Contents policy. Please contact your insurance company for more information.

7. Isn't it inevitable that an iPad will be knocked, dropped or broken?

Accidents may happen and this is the reason all iPads should be insured and an appropriate cover be purchased to protect them from any bumps and knocks.

8. Will parents be required to pay for Apps?

Yes. Students will be required to download specific apps according to the requirements of their year level. Please refer to the school website for the list of apps related to your child's year level.

Section B- Teaching and Learning

1. Why does the program start at Year 3 - aren't the children just too young at this age and aren't the basics of reading, writing, maths and handwriting more important at this stage?

Children in Year 3 are more than capable of integrating their knowledge with the focused use of technology. This age has been used with success in many other school programs. The current curriculum will not be replaced with the use of the iPad, rather the iPad will be used as a purposeful tool, to complement the current curriculum.

2. Will the iPads improve the skills of my child?

It is widely researched that technology can be used as a highly effective tool in education, much like a book or calculator. The tool in itself does not improve skills, rather they offer opportunities to enhance the educational experience.

The benefits of the addition of One to One iPads in the class should be directed towards increased ability to extend students learning, through creation and application tasks. The added benefit is that students experience increased motivation.

The curriculum at St Benedicts caters for individual student needs in a 21st century learning environment. This pedagogy forms the foundation and focus for an effective One to One program, which will certainly aim to enhance the development of students' higher order thinking skills. Formal assessments will still be determined by each student's ability and readiness to address the requirements of the assessment tasks they encounter in the curriculum. The iPad is primarily about giving students greater access to knowledge and developing skills that are more in keeping with what is required for a 21st century learner.

3. How much time will students use the iPads in the classrooms?

The iPads will be integrated into the curriculum to support and enhance our current educational programs. This may mean that some days the iPads will not be used, as their introduction would not enhance the program being conducted, however on other days their use may be integrated throughout the day. We expect an average of 30% of class time will utilise the iPad in some way.

4. Will my child be required to do homework on their iPads?

It is envisaged that students will continue to be provided with a diverse range of homework, some of which, but certainly not all, can be completed on their iPads. Parents do need to monitor this as generally homework that may need to be completed on the iPad should not exceed the daily homework limit for your child's year level.

5. My child can't even look after their lunchbox—how are they expected to look after an expensive piece of equipment?

One of the many positive aspects of the One to One iPad program is that it instils responsibility in our children and they learn to value property and take responsibility for their belongings. We have every confidence that, in partnership with parents, the children will be taught and learn very quickly the importance of being responsible for their iPad and they will take great pride in their ability to be responsible with it.

6. What professional development will be given to teachers?

All teaching staff have already had opportunities for professional development in the IT area and will be given ongoing professional development specific to iPad technology through the school's IT provider and the Catholic Education Office.

Teachers have been issued their own iPad to aid in their continued development and understanding of Apple based technology.

Section C- The Technology

1. Why is it important that everyone has the same device? Can I buy my child a similar Android device?

St Benedicts have chosen to use an Apple product for our One to One program and other devices will not be supported. We have arrived at this decision through a lengthy consultation process including studying the success of other programs integrated into 'like' schools.

Technology and software needs to be consistent between all the students and the teacher. This ensures that no students are disadvantaged because their computers cannot support the required technology and apps. It also ensures the program is run as efficiently as possible and unique or specific issues or problems cannot detrimentally affect the program for the rest of the class.

2. Why is the program based on Apple technology?

The creative potential with the Apple app software, the general robustness and the reliability of Mac platforms are all factors, which the school believes make Mac based technology the best choice for our students.

In addition, Apple offers a comprehensive education support program for teachers.

Providing exposure to different platforms of technology also ensures the students have exposure possible, which will benefit their use and understanding of technology in later years.

3. How does Apple technology work with Microsoft based programs?

A number of Microsoft applications are compatible with the Apple technology. The key is that the students and teachers will all be using the same technology and platform. In addition, the use of Apple technology provides students with diverse learning opportunities as they can learn both Apple and a number of Microsoft compatible applications on the iPad rather than only learning one technology. With the implementation of GAFE (Google Apps for Education), the 'cloud' content can be accessed from any platform or device.

4. What is the technology plan for the school and how does the program fit in with those plans?

The school continues to develop a comprehensive plan for improving technology throughout the school for the benefit of all students over the next 3 years. The One to One iPad Program plays an important part in the school's strategic plan for information technology but is not the single solution - a comprehensive plan that incorporates the needs of all students - from kindergarten onwards - will ensure the school ultimately has a coordinated and integrated technology plan for all students during their primary school years.

5. What is happening in high schools - will this program integrate with future high school requirements?

There is no standard approach at the moment and each high school is making its own decisions with respect to the use of technology. Currently, many high schools have been implementing Apple platform technologies.

6. How long will we have the device for?

It is expected that the life of an iPad will last the duration of their upper primary schooling

7. How do you save work created on an iPad?

iPads do not have a USB input to save and access work. iPads are designed to work with 'Cloud' technology. Cloud technology is an online storage facility that allows access to files, documents, photos and music anytime, anywhere, as long as you have access to the internet. Cloud technology is developing at a rapid rate. The school is in the process of implementing GAFE (Google Apps for Education), which uses 'cloud' technology to save the children's work. There are also a number of apps which can be used as a virtual classroom to 'hand in' documents to the teacher via the iPad

8. Will my child still need a computer at home?

This is your choice. Most households have an existing PC or laptop. A computer is not a requirement of the One to One iPad program. Presently, an iPad cannot completely replace a computer. Whilst iPad Apps and its hardware and operating system is being developed at a rapid rate, an iPad cannot complete the more demanding tasks that a high-end desktop computer can do.

9. How do you set up the iPads to use the internet at home?

The iPads utilise wireless technology so the internet can be accessed via wi-fi technology. At home, parents will need to have a wi-fi capable internet connection.

10. Is the school properly equipped to support the program (servers, wireless technology, etc)?

Yes - the school is progressively upgrading its IT infrastructure with a high-speed wireless solution. This will adequately support the One to One iPad program implementation and the iPad class sets in Junior Primary.

The school has prepared and is equipped for the One to One iPad program. As with any technology, it is inevitable that issues may arise. Nonetheless, the school believes it is well positioned to overcome any practical issues without detrimentally affecting the program. The school has appointed an ICT committee to oversee curriculum integration and daily maintenance. ICT services will continue to support and maintain our ICT infrastructure.

11. How will backups occur and who will have the responsibility for this?

You can use iCloud or iTunes to backup and restore your content on the iPad. Read the information to decide which is your preferred method of backing up your child's iPad.

Backed-up information includes purchased music, TV shows, apps, and books; photos and video in the Camera Roll; device settings (for example, Phone Favourites, Wallpaper, and Mail, Contacts, Calendar accounts); app data; Home screen and app organisation; Messages (iMessage, SMS, and MMS), ringtones, and more.

12. What is the battery life of the iPads and what happens if my child's iPad is not fully charged each day?

The iPad battery life is sufficient to last for up to approximately 10 hours. Students will need to ensure that their iPad is charged in readiness for the day. There is a link on the One to One website which offers some hints and tips for prolonged battery life.

Section D POLICY & PROCEDURES

1. I am concerned about my child using the internet and having access to it - what policies and procedures will be utilised to ensure only appropriate internet access is allowed?

As part of the program, the school has comprehensive policies and procedures dealing with internet use. Internet access will be strictly supervised at all times.

At school, there is protection provided by the school's filters on its server that restricts access to inappropriate sites and materials. There is also a program in place that can monitor individual device and its internet usage. In addition the school has tracking programs in place that can identify devices and material that has been accessed.

GAFE (Google Apps for Education), a cloud based learning management system, requires the children to accept Google's Terms and Conditions during the setup stage. The students are guided through each stage of the setup; and the terms and conditions are discussed thoroughly ensuring the students are aware of appropriate internet and iPad use.

When using the iPad at home, it is the responsibility of the parent to monitor acceptable usage and internet access. Parental controls are available on the iPad under Settings -> General -> Restrictions. (Remember to write down this Restriction passcode and store it in a secure place.)

The school takes no responsibility for inappropriate usage and internet access outside school hours. Below is a link to Apple Parental Controls or Restrictions that are available on the iPad.
<http://support.apple.com/kb/HT4213>

2. Is there an agreement I need to sign before my child is allowed to use his/her iPad?

Yes. The iPad Code of Conduct and Student/Parent Agreement Policy will need to be read and discussed thoroughly with your child. This agreement needs to be signed by both yourself and your child and returned at the commencement of the school year. Parents must revisit this agreement with their child/ren as the need arises and in addition, maintain a constant and open dialogue throughout the year.

The student's classroom teacher will also discuss the Policy on Acceptable Internet Use and the iPad Code of Conduct and Agreement Policy with the students at the beginning of the school year and subsequently as the need arises.

3. Will students be able to use Social Media on the iPad?

No, this function is to be disabled in Restrictions. Students will not be able to access social media at school.

4. Could my child have their iPad taken from them?

Yes. The School reserves the right to remove this privilege. The iPad will be removed if your child is in breach of our Policy on Acceptable Internet Use and the iPad Code of Conduct and Agreement Policy

5. What happens if another student damages my child's iPad?

The iPad Code of Conduct and Agreement Policy strictly states that iPads are not to be loaned to other students and must be kept in a safe place at all times. However, in the instance where an iPad is accidentally or maliciously damaged by another student, the incident should be reported immediately to your child's teacher. Your teacher will then follow strict protocols that will involve consultation with the school Leadership Team to find a satisfactory solution. It is strongly recommended that parents do not contact other parents or students directly regarding the damaged article.

6. What happens if the iPad just stops working?

Any issues with the technical operations of the iPad need to be brought to the attention of the teacher and parents as soon as possible. Parents will need to make plans to have the device fixed or replaced as soon as possible.

7. Can my child use their iPad if the screen is damaged?

No, as the tiny shards of glass and the harmful chemicals that could seep out, may cause injury to your child. If this has occurred, for the safety of your child and so the teaching program and your child's learning is not compromised, please attend to the damaged screen immediately.

8. What happens if my child does not have an iPad for longer than a day?

In the event that your child's iPad is undergoing repairs, with the approval of the principal, the school will source an iPad for a short period of time. For a period beyond reasonable without an iPad and for reasons other than mentioned, this will need to be discussed with the principal as costs may be incurred.

9. Why does my child have to bring the iPad home - wouldn't it be easier and safer to keep them at school?

The students are required to take their iPads home each night for a number of reasons, including taking personal responsibility of their device, security and insurance. Also, the fact that it is most practical for children to recharge their iPads each night at home and that they can gain full use of the iPad by having access to it at home.

10. Can I use Family Sharing with my child's iPad?

As part of the iOS update, Apple has incorporated a feature called Family Sharing.

Family Sharing makes it easy for up to six people in your family to share each other's iTunes, iBooks and App Store purchases without sharing accounts. Pay for family purchases with the same credit card and approve kids' spending straight from a parent's device. And share photos, a family calendar and more to help keep everyone connected.
(<http://www.apple.com/ios/whats-new/family-sharing/>)
Read through the information on [iCloud Family Sharing](#) to help you decide if this method of setting up and purchasing apps is suitable for your family.

Section E GENERAL ISSUES

1. Will students be able to put their music on the device?

Yes. Students are able to place their purchased music on the device allocated to them.

2. Will students use their iPads at recess and lunch?

No, the iPads will be locked in the classroom during break times, we as a school highly value play time so students can stay fit and active. This also ensures the devices are safe from damage during this time.

3. Are students allowed to install games?

Yes, however any loaded software applications or Apps which are not on the school's specified app list are to be restricted to home use in line with the teacher's discretion. Keeping in mind, that as the sole purpose of the iPad's use at St Benedict's is for educational pursuits, loading excessive amounts of software and apps will impact the performance of the iPads generally. In so much, that iCloud and storage capacities may become limited or exceeded. Students may be asked to delete games/software if this is the case.

4. What if the storage on my child's iPad is full?

This generally occurs if the iPad has too many apps on it and/or apps are updated. With this comes the fact that the updated apps are generally larger in size, hence, use more storage space. In particular, this can quickly impact the performance of the iPad for school use. If the iPad's performance or storage is affected, personal apps will need to be deleted immediately. However, it is worth noting, that deleted apps are never permanently deleted; they are simply removed from the iPad and just as easily, can be reloaded.

5. Will the device add extra weight to their school bags?

The device weighs 652 grams and will add minimal weight to students' school bags.

6. What if my child forgets to bring their iPad to school on a day?

If there is an alternate iPad available, they may be able to borrow it for the day. It is really no different to if a child forgets their maths book. It is felt that the children will quickly adapt to accepting responsibility of their iPad and it should become as second nature to them as bringing their school bag to school each day!

7. As a parent I don't know much about computers - will there be any support for parents if the iPads are to be used at home?

Documentation assisting with the setup of the iPad can be found on the school website and further information on the Apple website: http://manuals.info.apple.com/MANUALS/1000/MA1595/en_US/ipad_user_guide.pdf or emailing admin@stbenedicts.wa.edu.au with your query and if required, further assistance can be arranged.

Children will be taught all necessary skills such that the need for parent involvement should be minimal - children learn quickly and will soon be in a position to assist you in your own learning!