



**Press
Start**

Frequently Asked Questions



How do students benefit from a device of their own?

Digital tools are everywhere. Today, almost every adult has at least one digital device that they take with them everywhere they go. As we move into the 21st century, the capacity to use digital devices effectively is becoming as important as literacy and numeracy.

While most schools have some devices that students can use, the education experience is transformed when students have access to these tools whenever they need them. A one- to-one program means that every lesson can be enriched using the power of technology.



Who has made the decision to commence the Press Start program?

The school proposed this program after a confidential survey of all staff indicated overwhelming support. In 2016, a Steering Committee comprised of parent representatives recommended that the school implement the program.

What would be the cost of participating in the program?

The cost would depend on the device selected. However, as an indication, an entry-level iPad Air 2 would cost \$508 plus the price of accessories. The AppleCare extended warranty (highly recommended) costs an additional \$99.

Which group of students will be involved?

Advice from our teaching staff is that this program should commence at Year Four. Students will continue in the program until they graduate at the end of Year Six.

Why is the program funded by parents?

Yanchep Beach Primary School will invest a significant amount of funding into this program.



This will cover the cost of all apps, teacher professional learning, charging stations, wireless infrastructure, technical support and school-owned devices. However, the school can only achieve a ratio of one device per child by partnering with the parent community.

What if I cannot afford to buy my child a device?

The school would purchase a bank of devices that would be available to students whose families were unable to take part in the program. Unlike students whose parents purchase them a device, these students would not be able to take devices home.

Which device has been selected?

To ensure a consistent educational experience, all participants in the program use the same device. This ensure that the teacher's focus is on student learning and not on technical issues. The parent committee has nominated the Apple iPad as its nominated device for the program.

What will the school do to promote student safety?

Students will take part in a comprehensive ongoing digital citizenship program covering safe use of their device. The school will also run a series of after-school workshops for parents to educate them about how to manage student devices.

How will devices be monitored?

The school network and the device itself contain a number of safety mechanisms that minimise the risk of students using devices in inappropriate ways. However, the most effective form of monitoring is direct visual supervision by teachers and parents.



What if students do not use their devices appropriately?

Use of digital devices at school is a privilege. Students who do not use their devices appropriately will receive consequences in line with the school's Behaviour Management Policy. Cyber-bullying, in particular, will be treated very seriously by the school.

How much time will students spend on their devices?

It is important that students receive a balanced education. A **maximum** of fifty percent of instruction time on any given day will use digital devices.

What will happen when there are technical problems with devices?

The school will provide assistance with key functions such as connecting to the school network. However, as the devices will be parent-owned, other maintenance will be a parent responsibility. Parents who purchase AppleCare will receive 24 hour telephone support plus free repair of any faults covered by warranty.

What if a device is lost or stolen?

If the device is leased, the lease company will provide a replacement machine free of charge. Where parents purchase a device outright, they should confirm that it will be covered by their home contents insurance policy. If it is not, then a Protecsure insurance policy is available as an optional extra.

Devices can be backed up automatically every night and all data can be easily re-loaded onto a replacement device.

What if students forget to bring their device to school?

A fleet of school-owned devices will be available for the following purposes:

- for students who forget their device (this is expected to be a very rare occurrence);
- for students whose devices are being repaired;
- for students whose families are in financial hardship (in-school use only).



Which apps will be required?

All apps will be provided by the school. These will be distributed automatically to students using a wireless mobile device management system.

Will parents be permitted to purchase additional apps?

Since parents will own the devices, they are free to install additional apps if they choose. We do,



however, encourage families to treat the device as primarily a learning tool and not a toy. Families can restrict their children from installing additional apps if they wish.

How will devices be used in class?

- Flexible Teaching- A device can allow teachers to build dynamic lessons and assignments with new content rich materials that are flexible and easy to access for all learners.
- Creative Learning- With the ability to hand in homework, students can be even more creative with showing what they have learned with ease through submission of videos, presentations, books, photos and PDFs. Teachers will be able to easily see them, grade them and give feedback directly through the device.
- Catering for special needs- Devices are a powerful learning tool for students with special needs and can offer many innovative accessibility features. For students with cognitive, physical, or other disabilities a device opens up incredible opportunities for learning.

How will students access the Internet?

At school, students will access the Internet via the Department of Education's wireless network. They will also have the option of connecting to a wi-fi network at home if one is installed.

Is it possible that the device will be infected with a virus?

Modern mobile devices are highly secure and are unlikely to be infected with a virus. However, a system of automatic backups will reduce the risk of data loss in the rare event that a problem does occur.

Will our students continue to write by hand?

Students will continue to write by hand and read paper books. The development of fine motor skills through handwriting, in particular, will continue to be a whole-school focus.

