

Surfside Primary School



Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

iPad Program 2025

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From the Principal

School Vision: To inspire our students to be creative, innovative and emotionally equipped to thrive.

In 2024 Surfside Primary will continue the use of iPads as part of our 1:1 digital technology strategy for students in grades 3-6. All families are requested to provide their child with an iPad for school use from grades 3 – 6.

Rationale:

The Victorian Digital Technologies Curriculum requires all students to achieve skills and standards by certain year levels and schools are mandated to provide technology for students from Year 3 onwards. Children can participate in system wide online testing like Naplan and student opinion surveys. Surfside also require the use of iPads so that we can implement our Indonesian program and provide access to the learning resources required for these year levels. Teaching children good digital habits is best achieved in earlier class levels rather than waiting till later year levels.

Implementation:

Students in years 3-6 will bring their iPad fully charged to school each day, where it will be connected to the schools Wi-Fi for internet access and printing. There is a list of required apps that are essential for student learning which will be automatically installed upon enrolment to

It is not practical for the school to consider other brands or devices apart from an iPad. The children have learnt on this platform from Foundation and it would be impractical for teachers to manage multi technology platforms.

Families may use an existing iPad or purchase a new iPad, that meets Surfside's minimum requirements, from any retailer of their choice.

It is not compulsory, however we encourage all families to participate in the 1:1 program.

Personal devices allow greater access for purposeful use - Students are able to create, save and share their learning as needed and are not restricted by school shared devices.

Families who are unable to afford the upfront cost of an iPad can contact the school to discuss possible arrangements.

Please take the time to read this booklet which will explain many matters around 1-1 learning.

Regards

Peter Walsh
Principal





Purpose & Goals of BYO iPad Program

1:1 iPad Program

2024 will see the school continue and utilize its 1:1 program in grades 3 to 6.

The iPads will provide students the opportunity to be effective digital learners who will become confident, creative and productive in a digital world.

Students will use their iPads in class and at home to support their learning. We believe that giving students immediate access to technology in a 1:1 program format will help engage them in the learning process. Students will learn various ways to become increasingly skilled at using technology to access and present information, to problem solve and work collaboratively.

The iPad is not used as a toy or for entertainment. It does not take the place of the teacher to educate or instruct the children.

Goals of the 1:1 Program

As a broad guide, the following are our goals:

- Access, use, create and publish digital and online information.
- Develop knowledge, understanding and skills through creativity, critical thinking and problem solving.
- Collaborate with others.
- Communicate their knowledge and learning in a variety of ways.
- Achieve the skills of the Digital Technologies section of the Victorian Curriculum. This means all students in Victorian schools will be assessed and reported on how they use ICT in the classroom
- Access relevant curriculum resources to implement specialist programs like Indonesian
- Develop the skills to use the iPads as a tool to manage their work and learning
- develop age-appropriate ICT skills and understandings, including the responsibilities of online citizenship

Students will accept responsibility for:

- Their personal actions when using ICT.
- The care and functionality of their device.

iPad Provision

2024: Parent Purchase Model

Families will have the option of purchasing an iPad through a retailer of their choice as long as the minimum hardware specification are followed.

Which iPads are acceptable?

As technology is constantly evolving, models change regularly, and we try to accommodate the varying types as best we can. This does not mean that the latest iPad model is needed but to ensure students can use the device to its fullest, we can only accept 7th Gen iPads or higher with a storage capacity of no less than 64GB.



For optimal compatibility, we highly recommend that a 9th Generation iPad is used. Please note: SIM cards in iPads are not supported

Technical Support

Troubleshooting / Tech support Processes

Surfside primary has several resources which students can access for technical support. If the issue cannot be resolved at a school level, we can direct you to more specialized support.

The first point of call is the classroom teacher. If they cannot assist, problems will be directed to our IT technician.

Our IT technician isn't onsite every day, but we will endeavor to resolve the issue in timely and efficient manner.

Accidental iPad Damage

iPad repairs are the responsibility of parents and families. We recommend that before any repairs are started, check the devices warranty, AppleCare+ or store insurance timeline to ensure you do not void any active cover.

The school can assist in explaining the issue to families to aid in the process of getting the device repaired.

If devices are not covered under Apple warranty or other insurance, we can direct you to a third party Apple device repair agent. ****Please ensure all repair work is covered by a short term warranty****



Safety & Security



At School

Make sure that your iPad is either in your possession or stored away in a secure area in your classroom at all times, during recess and lunchtime.

All students will be provided with a unique username and password. This allows students to access their student Compass accounts as well as securely access and store work.

Do Not

- Create simple passwords that are easily guessed
- Share your Apple ID password with anyone.
- Place it near an external window. Exposure to view from outside may tempt would-be thieves.

At Home

To avoid temptation and promote healthy sleeping habits, do not leave iPads or technology in bedrooms at night.

Create screen time limits to promote boundaries around use to minimise daily disruptions. Prevent children from eating and drinking over their devices to ensure fully uninterrupted functionality.

Apple App Store

It is strongly advised that parents do not use the same Apple ID that is used with their phones also on their child's device to ensure account security and no access to credit cards, photos, etc.

As you will own the device, you will need to set up an Apple ID account for your child and we recommend using Family Sharing for increased management.

The minimum age requirement for an Apple ID is 13. This means students will need to use their parent's Apple ID or enable Family Sharing. With Family Sharing, you can create Apple IDs for children under 13.

"Children under 13 can't create an Apple ID on their own. However, as a parent or legal guardian, the family organiser can provide verified parental consent for a child to have their own Apple ID, then create it on the child's behalf." - Apple Support

Setup and Use at School

Internet Connectivity/ Network Access

Students will be accessing Internet through the SPS network.

Each student will have their own username and password to connect to the WiFi.

iPads are NOT to be used before school, during recess or lunch breaks, or after school while travelling home.



School Based Apps

Apps:

Surfside Primary School will utilize a Mobile Device management system, JAMF, to install educational school-based apps at the beginning of each school year.

These apps will be utilized in the classroom to assist students with their learning outcomes. As the year progresses, apps may be removed, and new apps installed.

Please note: No personal content on the device is visible in or through JAMF.

Passwords:

Students must enable a passcode on their iPads, with auto-lock set to 5 minutes.

They must not share their passcode with other students, but parents must know the passcode.

Home screen Set-up:

Students are expected to have all school apps located together on one home screen. All other apps are to be moved to another home screen. This ensures that students can easily locate apps as needed.

Charging:

Students are expected to bring their iPads to school fully charged, everyday. There will not be facilities at school for charging. It is recommended students put their device on charge in the evening when they go to bed, as this ensures it is fully charged for each day's learning.

There will not be devices for 'loan' at school. Course work will be completed without the iPad if it cannot be used.

Care:

Students are responsible for the care of the iPad they bring to Surfside. iPads that have damaged screens, broken or fail to work properly must be fixed/repared as soon as possible.

- The iPad is the student's property and should be treated with respect and care
- Always update to the latest iOS version to ensure security and safety
- iPads should not be left in backpacks, or any unsupervised area
- Students must have screen protectors and to **always** keep their iPad in the case to avoid damage.
- Students are to keep their devices clean and free from foreign matter

Games & Music

While at school the iPad is a learning tool and educational device, not an entertainment device.

Therefore it is to be used for learning, not entertainment. Games, music and other entertainment apps are not to be used during school times, nor should appear on the school Home Screen. iPads are not a device to accompany study or tutorials during school.

Certain apps can use a lot of iPad storage and parents will need to monitor to ensure all school required apps can work as expected.

FAQs



Why do children need their own iPad in grades 3 and 4?

The Victorian Digital Curriculum and the curriculum in general requires student to meet bench marks in year 3 and 4. Having access to the technology early gives the children the opportunity to learn the appropriate behaviours to manage the devices effectively. Feedback from parents asked for the technology to be made available in years 3 & 4 so that a device could be purchased with 4 years of use gained. Student opinion surveys and Naplan are being implemented in an online format which requires 1-1 access. We also rely on students having access so that we can implement our Indonesian program.

Why do we need to bring our own device?

When families and children own the device, they take great care in looking after this expensive and important resource. Historically schools provided the hardware like desktop computers or laptops. However, our modern learning style requires all children have their own device. When families own and supply the device the learning can go to and from school each day. School owned devices must stay at school and are restricted to only DET licensed software. Families can choose whatever apps they feel are appropriate for their child and use the device for both school and home use. It would be impossible without very large school fees for a school to purchase iPads for each student.

Why iPads and not another brand?

The school has used the iPad as its preferred device now for 5 years. We have found that children can intuitively operate the iPad without teacher or parent assistance. The technical support time required for iPads is drastically reduce compared to other iPad/tablet options.

Each classroom is also equipped with Apple TV, so iPads will mirror their content wirelessly on the televisions with no tech support required. While Adults may choose an Android or Google based device as their preferred platform, the iPad has proven itself as the best child centred device.

How much time will my son/daughter be spending in front of an iPad?

It is important to note that the iPad is used as a tool to enhance learning, not as a toy or entertainment. We acknowledge that too much screen time can be an issue amongst students and ensure that we maintain a balance of digital technologies and concrete materials during class. Teachers will monitor time spent on screens and will vary tasks accordingly to ensure children do not spend inappropriate time with screens.

Will iPads stop my child from learning core skills we used to learn?

Ipads are not used as a substitute for core learning and skills like handwriting and mental arithmetic are still an important part of your child's education. The iPad is used to value add to the core skills that we currently teach and hold important at Surfside. The children will continue to develop their understanding using concrete materials and face to face teacher/student interactions. However the iPad allows the children to engage in their learning and express their work and findings in ways that used to be impossible.

Where will a student store their iPad when it is not in use? Eg. Lunchtime

Students will keep their iPad with them in their classroom tub/locker or specialist area. iPads are not permitted to be taken and used in the playground during breaks. Our school insurance does not cover students' personal belongings for damage or theft. We suggest that parents check with their Insurance company for cover. We will ensure that part of the BYOD program will involve discussion and education to reduce the risk of theft and damage.

Is my child expected to take their iPad home every day?

Yes, students are expected to take the iPad to and from school each day. This will enable them to fully utilise the device at home and at school. It is expected that the iPad will be charged overnight ready for use the next day at school. Remember: Families own the device. Parents are asked to ensure that the iPad is used responsibly and cared for appropriately in the home environment. **A strong iPad Case will help protect the device in transit.**

Can I recharge my iPad at school?

No: It is expected that the iPad is fully charged upon arrival at school and will not need charging during the day. Student battery chargers are to remain at home and not be brought to school.

Can other people use the iPad?

While it is a family owned device, the iPad is required for the student's education, so it is recommended that it is not used by other people outside of the family.

Can my child access games on their iPad?

Games are not to be accessed through the school network or used or downloaded on the iPad at school. Inappropriate, violent and other unacceptable material must not be accessed or used under any circumstances during school time. Due to age restrictions, **Social Networking Apps will NOT be used at school**, and are not recommended for Primary School age children. It is the right of parents to determine what is appropriate usage and access in the home environment.

What if my child doesn't have an iPad?

We endeavour to provide access to a school owned device that may be shared across classes and year levels, while they are at school.

Personal devices allow greater access for purposeful use - Students are able to create, save and share their learning as needed and are not restricted by school shared devices.

Who can I contact if I have further questions?

Questions regarding the iPad Program can be emailed to our school (surfside.ps@education.vic.gov.au) with the subject line "iPad BYOD Help", or your class teacher via Compass. Your inquiry will be responded to as quickly as possible.

