

Primary School

Changes to the Student Device Program starting in 2024

The College is moving to a school-owned device model starting in Year 4 in 2024. This will be repeated each year until all Year 4, 5 and 6 Primary students are using a school-owned device.

Why is the College moving to a school-owned device program?

Since the inception of the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program in 2016, the College has been navigating the following challenges:

- Damaged, faulty and misconfigured devices in the classroom.
- Virus and hacking risks associated with BYO devices.
- The right of ownership debate regarding installation of software and management of the device.
- Student access to non-educational content and the difficulty in filtering and controlling student owned devices to mitigate this problem.
- Off-task use of technology in class.

What will it cost?

Current pricing is approximately \$350 per student per annum, for three years (from Year 4 to Year 6). After which a new device will be provided for Years 7 to 9 and then again for Years 10 to 12 with associated costs of approximately \$800 per student. Costs will be represented in a technology levy in family fees. The cost will include:

- Device
- Device management
- Comprehensive warranty
- Protective case
- Service and support
- Swap out and replacement
- Software and licensing

When will the program start?

In 2024 for Year 4 and then repeated for three years until all Year 4, 5 and 6 students are using a school-owned device.

What will the platform be?

The College will continue using Apple iPads in the Primary School.

We have a device at home. Can my child use this at school?

No, it is important that the students have the same device with the same software suite and the same security settings. The device is one part of the whole package which includes

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support, software, management, security, warranty, service agreement and swap outs during repairs to ensure minimal disruption to learning.

We have seen devices for cheaper than the College device. Why are we spending more?

The school is sourcing the best product at the best price with bulk buying power. The cost includes the whole package as indicated above.

Will the price be the same for future students?

John XXIII College will negotiate prices each year. Consequently, the price may vary between year groups.

At the end of Year 6 can I buy the device outright?

At the end of Year 6, all three-year old devices will be replaced with new devices for Year 7. The three-year old devices will be returned to the College and will be factored into the total cost of the program. Devices will need to be returned in a condition compliant with this Agreement.

What if my child leaves John XXIII College?

The College will require the device and all associated peripherals to be returned in an acceptable condition. Charges may apply if the device is damaged.

Will the device work at home?

The device will connect to home networks and students will be able to access online platforms at home (e.g., YouTube, Netflix, etc). However, they will not be able to install software or change device settings.

Will families still get access to Family Zone cyber safety software at home?

The Family Zone product ends production on 30 June 2023. The College will transition to a new internet filtering model which will be available for home and school use from 2024.

Will the new system mean my child will never be off-task on a device in class?

There are no absolute guarantees against off-task use of devices. However, the ability to access, manage and secure school owned devices will result in more control over making our students safe, secure and on-task in the classroom.