

BYO iPad Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Thank you for sharing your thoughts / questions / concerns about our BYO iPad Program at Corinda SS. We have compiled a list of questions and answers for your information.

Q: Why is an iPad the chosen device?

A: An iPad (9th Generation or later) has been nominated for a number of reasons. Firstly, this mid-range priced device will allow iOS updates for 3 years from the date of purchase. It is lightweight, mobile and supports Microsoft Office apps such as Word and OneNote. The iPad also supports creativity in other learning areas, such as GarageBand for Music, iMovie for Dance and Drama, and Book Creator for multimodal tasks.

Q: What will it cost to set my child up for the BYO iPad program?

A: Approximately \$660, including accessories and apps. (\$450 iPad 9th Gen/ 32GB/ Wi-Fi, \$60 case, \$80 Bluetooth keyboard, \$10 sleeve, \$40 glass screen protector, \$10 apps)

Q: Will there be a decrease in book list purchases if my child is part of the BYO iPad program?

A: Yes. Students will not require a dictionary, calculator- an estimated saving of \$140 over Years 4 – 6.

Q: Can we bring other mobile devices or laptops to school?

A: No, we have limited the device to an iPad (9th Gen or later) to ensure consistent teaching and learning approaches and to provide adequate technical support to students, parents and teachers.

Q: Will the school offer a hire scheme or financial support for families?

A: We are unable to provide iPads for hire. However, we have established an education portal with a third-party provider who offers educational prices and finance options for families.

Q: Will there be iPad and non-iPad classes?

A: No. Corinda is an inclusive school and devices will not influence class structures. Students without a device will use shared school-based devices when the teacher deems this appropriate. These devices may be older model iPads and will not be available on a one-to-one ratio.

Q: How will teachers monitor what my child is accessing on their iPad?

A: At school, students must agree to follow the 'Acceptable Use of the Department's Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Network and Systems' in relation to Internet Use. Internet access is provided by Education Queensland's Managed Internet Service (MIS) and provides students with Content-filtered Internet access and Virus-filtered email.

Students and Parents/Caregivers must also sign our 'BYO iPad Participation Agreement' form to take part in the program.

'Apple Classroom' monitoring app is installed on all BYO iPad teachers' iPads. Teachers create a 'classroom' on their iPad and enrol all devices. This gives teachers control of every iPad- they can view and lock screens; mute devices; share documents; launch websites; reset passwords. This monitoring system disables when students are out of range and teachers cannot monitor iPads when students are at home.

Q: How much of the day will be spent on iPads? Will the students still be using pencil and paper?

A: Yes, students will continue to use pencil and paper and to practise handwriting. The amount of time that students will spend on their iPad will vary each day, depending on task requirements. Teachers will always choose the best tool for the task and ensure that devices are used for educational purposes.

Q: Do I need to purchase a new iPad from a particular store?

A: No, you can use a previously owned iPad (9th Gen or later) – please refer to the ‘Identifying the model number of an existing iPad’ document. iPads can be purchased from anywhere. We have established an education portal with a third-party provider who offers educational prices, finance options and support for families. However, we do not endorse particular retailers.

Q: What accessories will we need to purchase?

A: Students will require a heavy-duty case for their iPad, a Bluetooth keyboard, headphones, a screen protector and a neoprene sleeve. Students should not bring Apple Pencil or wireless earbuds (Airpods) to school. These are high value items that are easily lost or confused.

Q: Does my child need a 3G, 4G or 5G enabled iPad for school?

A: No. Student devices must only access the internet through our secure, wireless network to ensure they are working through Education Queensland Internet filters. If students must bring a cellular iPad, we request that the SIM card is removed when the iPad is at school. We recommend installing a device-monitoring program at home, as iPads can connect to home Wi-Fi systems.

Q: How will iPads be secured at school?

A: iPads will be stored in classrooms during class time and at break times. Each classroom will have lockable filing cabinets for iPad storage. iPads must remain in bags and not be used by students in the playground before and after school. After School Care will also have lockable filing cabinets for iPad storage.

While the BYO iPads will be securely stored during class and break times, parents are encouraged to seek personal insurance or Accidental Damage Protection. Options can be explored through Apple Care, preferred insurance companies and iPad retailers.

Q: What happens if my child’s iPad is damaged at school?

A: All devices are monitored by teachers at school and rules are in place to prevent foreseeable problems and damage. However, from time to time, accidents may occur. If any damage to a device is through negligence of the school, the school will cover the cost of repair. If damage is caused by deliberate or careless actions of a student (owner or others), the costs of repair will be passed onto those involved and necessary behaviour consequences may apply. The decision around the responsibility for repair costs is at the discretion of the Principal. This is covered in the BYOD agreement.

Q: Will iPads be charged at school?

A: No. Students will charge iPads at home. A fully charged iPad will last all day at school.

Q: Will students continue to have access to computers and other technologies?

A: Yes. All students will continue to access STEM Lessons

Q: Will students in all year levels be part of the BYOD iPad program?

A: No. Only Year 4, 5 and 6 students will participate in the program in 2025. Students will continue to use their devices until they graduate in year 6. Each year, students in Year 4 will have the option to join the program and use their device for a three-year period.