

Newlands Primary School 1:1 iPad Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Who will be taking iPads home?

Families in Grade 1-5 who are providing their own iPads or are leasing iPads, will be able to take them home at any time. Mutually acceptable arrangements for transporting the iPads to and from school will be made with these families.

What if I don't want my child to bring their iPad home?

That will be the decision of the individual family. iPads that are not taken home will be locked away securely with the school machines.

What support will be provided to families leasing iPads?

All families leasing iPads or bringing them from home will be provided with all the educational apps used by the school. The school will provide technical support to leased iPads and manage any warranty or insurance claims. Parents will also be given advice on how to implement appropriate restrictions on accessing the internet and apps.

Is there any more information on leasing arrangements?

The school is the lease-holder on the iPads, and families lease the iPads from the school. The school will be the central point for technical support and insurance claims. If a family chooses to no longer make lease payments, use of the iPad reverts to the school. If a family leaves the school before the lease period finishes they will have the option of paying out the lease and owning the iPad outright.

Will my child be missing out if they do not have an iPad to take home?

A large part of the reason for moving towards the 1:1 personalised learning model is to allow information to be shared between home and school to create a true learning collaboration. We still believe that the iPad is the most effective device for achieving this, however, as the program continues to transition through the school we will be doing this in ways that do not rely on having an iPad at home. For example, through the blogs and through programs that can be accessed by any computer with an internet connection.

How will I stay up to date with what's going on in the classroom?

Regular updates on how the iPads are being used will be provided on class blogs and in the newsletter. Parents will be invited to sessions in the classroom where they can participate as a 'student' to see how the technology is being integrated. Information sessions will also be conducted once a term to keep all families up to date.

What research supports 1:1 ICT programs?

The Victorian Government's trial of 1:1 iPads in schools found that:

- 90% of students said that learning was more fun when using the iPads
- 75% of teachers said that students had greater choice and flexibility in their learning
- 85% of primary teachers and 90% of special school teachers thought that students were more motivated and engaged in learning
- 67% of teachers said that use of the iPad had improved their effectiveness as teachers, and 75% were using ICT more effectively in teaching and learning
- 83% of primary teachers thought that using the iPad had improved students' literacy outcomes
- iPads had a significantly greater educational impact and were more successfully implemented in primary and special school settings than in secondary schools.

For more information about the trial visit www.ipadsforeducation.vic.edu.au

Are other schools implementing programs like this?

The following are just a few schools implementing 1:1 ICT programs. Apollo Parkways, a public primary school in Greensborough, introduced a 1:1 iPad program with 95% of families taking up private leasing arrangements. Newlands staff are already in contact with them to share knowledge and information as our program develops. Moreland Primary School introduced a 1:1 MacBook program some years ago. Parents lease the MacBooks from the school at a cost of \$100 per term. Lumen Christi Catholic Primary School has also introduced a 1:1 iPad Program, with parents charged leasing costs on their annual school levy. Since introducing our program at the beginning of 2013, a number of schools have come to learn about our program so they can implement similar ones at their schools.

What if I would like to lease an iPad for my child, but can't afford it?

If financial considerations are preventing you from leasing an iPad for your child, please feel very comfortable to approach Ross Dudgeon to discuss what the school can do to support your family. All discussions will be kept entirely confidential.

More information:

Research on the use of personalised computing devices in schools:

http://epotential.education.vic.gov.au/showcase/1_to_1_devices/readings_research

Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS) ICT Domain:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/interdisciplinary/ict/Pages/default.aspx>

Australian National Curriculum ICT Capability:

<http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/GeneralCapabilities/Information-and-Communication-Technology-capability/>