



Francis Jordan Catholic School 1:1 BYOD iPad Program

This Information Pack is designed to provide you with information on the 1:1 Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program, for students entering Year Three and Four in 2021. It will provide information on the program and answer frequently asked questions in relation to the use of iPads and the BYOD program generally.

An information session will be held in Term 4. Please check the calendar for this date.



ABOUT THE BYOD iPad PROGRAM

In 2021, Francis Jordan Catholic School will introduce a 1:1 Bring Your Own Device (iPad) Program. It is envisioned that children will use their device from Year Three until the end of Year Six.

The use of iPads in the classroom is designed to complement and enhance the current teaching and learning programs. Teachers will continue to plan learning experiences across the learning areas. The curriculum will be enhanced by access to information and the creative potential of the iPads. Within the classroom, the students will continue to have Religious Education, Dedicated Literacy time, Numeracy, Science, HASS, Health and Physical Education, as well as continue to learn important skills such as handwriting and mental maths skills. The use of iPads can complement these areas as well as provide exposure to new and diverse skills and learning opportunities.

Each student in Year Four will have their own iPad. Early childhood students (Kindy to Year Three) will still have access to technology through the school's resources, including the use of interactive whiteboards and devices.

Many of our families have iPads at home and utilise them regularly. Instead of asking our parents to buy their child a completely new laptop or iPad, we have chosen to implement the BYOD model for Francis Jordan going forward. This means that children may bring their iPad that they use at home to school (**provided that it has the AirDrop function and is a minimum of 32GB**), for use at school and will result in significant cost savings for our families.

Parents of our current Year Three students would have two options in regards to the BYOD iPad Program:

1. Bring an iPad they already have from home to school, for use at school on a daily basis.
2. Purchase an iPad model of your choice. The iPad must have the Airdrop function and have at least 32GB.

The school will also look to provide some financial assistance in cases of genuine need.

This Information Pack is designed to answer the most frequently asked questions in respect to the program and is divided into the four key areas of curriculum, technology, financial and implementation/general.



21st CENTURY LEARNING AND THE IPAD

Francis Jordan continues to look at ways in which we can further enhance the quality and standard of education through the use of technology. Whilst most of us grew up with educational support in the form of books and encyclopedias, today's children are growing up in a world where technology is a

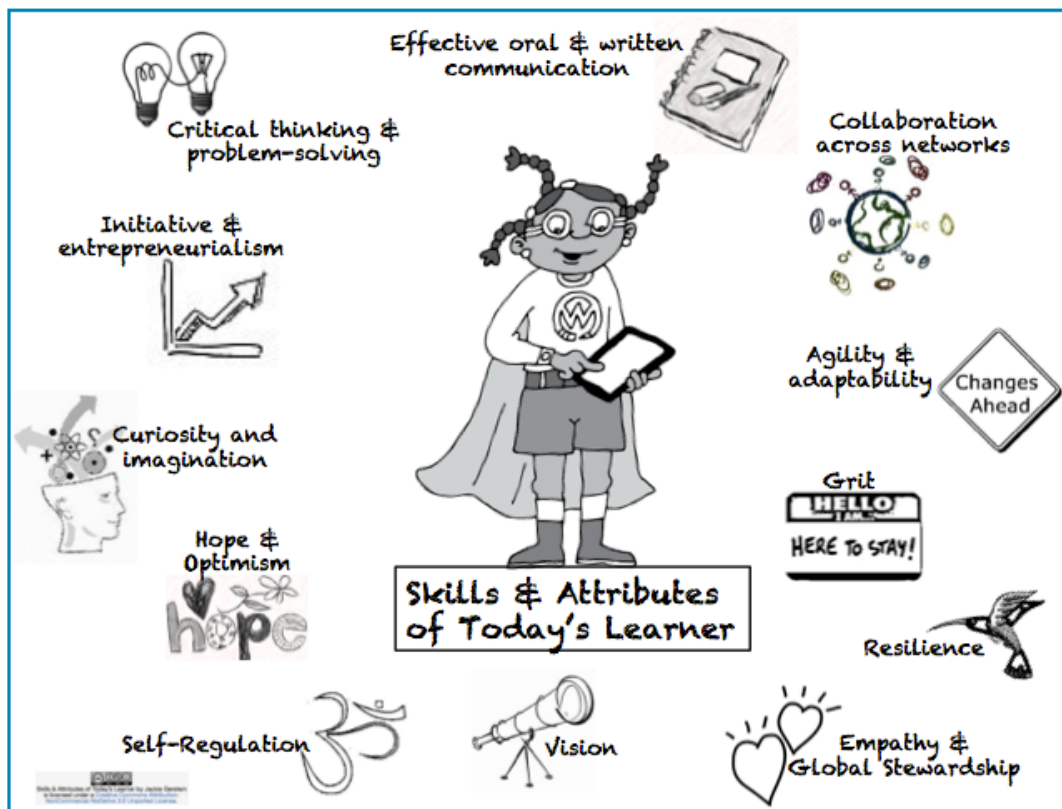
part of life and will form not only an important part of their education, but will inevitably be an important part of their future careers.

The 1:1 iPad program has been identified as an integral part of the school's technology plan, to enhance the students' opportunities for learning as well as preparing them for 21st century education.

What is 21st century learning and why is it important? Click [here](#) to view this video.

As the video above outlined, our world is changing at an unprecedented pace. To prepare our students, lessons must go beyond the "3 R's" and foster 21st century skills. Skills like critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity will be essential for students to take on the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Click [here](#) to learn about how our children's world is changing.

Our 1:1 Bring Your Own Device (iPad) at Francis Jordan will focus on developing the following skills that are essential in the world in which we live:



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

SECTION A – CURRICULUM



How will the iPads be used in the classroom?

The iPads will be integrated into the curriculum to support and enhance our current educational programs. The iPad program will support current teaching and learning plans and will assist in developing higher order thinking skills. It is in essence a creation tool, and not a replacement for pen and paper.

Will the iPads improve the skills of my child?

The iPad is a very effective tool to assist in education – much like a book or a calculator which do not, in and by themselves, improve skills but are an important tool and resource that assists in the education process.

The benefits of a 1:1 BYOD iPad program should be considered more in respect of the capacity to engage student attention, to encourage student motivation, to enable student access to information, to develop skills including problem solving and collaborative learning, as well as to enable a greater range of opportunities for students to construct and express their knowledge and skills in relevant and meaningful ways.

Such benefits form the foundation and focus for an effective BYOD iPad program which will certainly aim to enhance the development of students' higher order thinking skills. However, formal assessments will still be determined by each student's ability and readiness to address the requirements of the assessment tasks they encounter in the curriculum. The iPad is primarily about giving students greater access to knowledge and developing skills that are perhaps more in keeping with what is required for a 21st century learner.

Won't my child's basic numeracy, literacy and handwriting suffer if they spend a lot of time on an iPad?

No - students will still be taught numeracy, literacy, handwriting and religious education – the basic curriculum does not change. It is envisaged, however, that iPads will complement the learning in many of these areas. For example, software is available that teaches basic skills through a far more individualised approach than is physically possible in a standard class of 30 students.

What professional development will be given to teachers?

Year 3 and Year 4 teaching staff have had, and continue to have, opportunities for professional development in the IT area. In the future, this will focus on in best practice use of iPads in the classroom and staff will be given ongoing professional development specific to the iPad technology through the school, the use of external consultants and through the school Digital Transformational Coach.

All teachers and education assistants in Year 3 and Year 4 will have their own iPad to further assist them in developing appropriate and targeted curriculum and learning for students.

What access to IT will junior primary students have?

The school will continue to have computer resources and IT available for the benefit of students. All students who are not participating in the BYOD iPad program will have access to the school's resources, such as interactive whiteboards and class devices.

As a parent I don't know much about iPads – will there be any support for parents if the iPads are to be used at home?

There will be opportunities for parents to ask questions via parent information evenings to assist and support parents, and we will offer parent sessions on the use of the iPad.

Children will be taught all the necessary skills such that the need for parent involvement should be minimal – children learn quickly and will soon be in a position to assist you in your own learning!

What if my child forgets to bring their iPad to school on a day?

If there is an alternate iPad available, they may be able to borrow it for the day. It is really no different to when a child forgets their maths book on the day of maths – the school ensures no child is ever disadvantaged in learning.

It is felt that the children will quickly adapt to accepting responsibility of their iPad and it should become as second nature to them as bringing their school bag to school each day!

How many other primary schools are implementing similar programs?

1 :1 laptop and iPad programs have already been successfully introduced in a large number of primary schools through WA, and significantly more in the eastern states. A growing number of Catholic primary schools in the metropolitan area have implemented such programs, with others making firm plans for implementation in the near future. Many of these schools are offering the program directly through educational suppliers, with a package costing families around \$1,100 for an iPad. Introducing the BYOD program makes the program more affordable for families as they can bring an iPad that they currently have at home or can purchase a model that suits their needs and budget.

What is happening in high schools – will this program integrate with future high school requirements?

There is no standard approach at the moment and each high school is making their own decisions with respect to the use of technology.

Importantly, the program is designed for a three year term (Year Four to Year Six) such that it will be completed before the start of high school in Year Seven. Moreover, the exposure to the use of iPads is considered good preparation for students in readiness for similar programs that will be inevitable in the majority of high schools.

Will my child be required to do homework on their iPads?

Students will continue to be provided with a diverse range of homework, some of which, but certainly not all, can be completed on their iPads.

How will the program impact on book requirements and book orders?

Students will still require all current books as the curriculum is still the same. Currently, the iPads are not designed to replace books but rather are a tool to assist in learning. Whilst over time it is possible that some books will be replaced by compatible software applications, this is not expected to be the case in the short term.

SECTION B – TECHNOLOGY



Why is the program based on Mac technology?

The creative potential with the Mac software, the general robustness of the iPad and the reliability of Mac platforms are all factors which the school believes make Mac based technology the best choice for our students in going forward.

In addition, Apple offers a comprehensive education support program for teachers.

Providing exposure to Mac technology also ensures the students have exposure to the widest possible types of technology which will benefit their use of, and understanding of, technology in later years.

How does Mac technology work with Microsoft based programs?

A number of Microsoft applications are compatible with the Mac technology.

The key is that the students and teachers will all be using the same technology and platform, hence the stipulation that the Bring Your Own Device is an iPad and not an android tablet. In addition, the use of Mac technology provides

students with diverse learning opportunities as they can learn both Mac and a number of Microsoft compatible applications on the iPad rather than only learning one technology.

What is the technology plan for the school and how does the program fit in with those plans?

The school continues to develop a comprehensive plan for improving technology throughout the school for the benefit of all students over the next three years. The 1:1 BYOD iPad program plays an important part in the school's strategic plan for information technology but is not the single solution – a comprehensive plan that incorporates the needs of all students – from Kindergarten onwards – will ensure the school ultimately has a comprehensive, coordinated and integrated technology plan for all students during their primary school years.

How do you set up the iPads to use the internet at school and at home?

The iPads utilise wireless technology so the internet can be accessed via wi-fi technology. The children will access the school's wireless technology under supervision, while at school. At home, parents will need to have an internet connection, if internet access is required.

I am concerned about my child using the internet and having access to it – what policies and procedures will be utilised to ensure only appropriate internet access is allowed?

As part of the program, the school has comprehensive policies and procedures dealing with internet use. Internet access will be strictly supervised at all times and checks carried out on internet history to ensure all policies are being adhered to. Children will be taught how to be a responsible Digital Citizen both at home and at school.

In addition, parents do have the ability to restrict internet usage and access on the iPads at home.

Is the school properly equipped to support the program (servers, wireless technology, etc.)?

Yes. The school infrastructure fully supports the 1:1 iPad program implementation.

What software will be available on the iPads?

The school will purchase the apps that are required for use on the child's BYOD iPad. Any

additional required software will be accessed and funded by the school.

Whilst students can load their own software applications, we would request that this be restricted as far as possible to ensure such software does not impact on the performance of the iPads.

How will back-ups occur and who will have the responsibility for this?

The backups will occur at home and the students are responsible for this. Students will be taught about the importance of back-ups to either iCloud or the home computer via iTunes, and will be given lessons in how to perform this function properly. By empowering the students with this responsibility they are encouraged to take responsibility for their own iPad and understand the importance of looking after it.

Is there additional costing in software?

No – as noted above any additional software requirements will be met by the school.



What is the battery life of the iPads and what happens if my child's iPad is not fully charged each day?

The iPad battery life is sufficient to last for up to approximately 8-10 hours so will not necessarily require charging every day. Students will be educated as to the importance of charging their device and how to do this.

SECTION C - FINANCIAL



What is the full cost to me as a parent and what are my funding options?

If your child has their own iPad already, (with the AirDrop function) there will be no cost! We would suggest a robust cover and a screen protector to protect the iPad.

For parents who do not have an iPad, the cost would depend on your budget. We work closely with JB Hi-Fi to find the best deal on the iPad and accessories.

How will the program impact on future school fees and computer levies?

The program is not expected to impact on school fees. The current family IT levy will remain in place.

Will the iPads be insured at school or do I need to arrange this myself?

In order to keep the costs to a minimum, we have opted for the Bring Your Own Device iPad program. This means that each parent will need to ensure that their child's iPad is covered under their home and contents insurance and are encouraged to check the details with their insurance company to ensure full coverage.

Alternatively, parents may wish to purchase Apple Care.

What if I simply can't afford to buy an iPad for my child?

Please see the Principal in cases of genuine financial hardship and your particular circumstances can be discussed and alternatives considered.

What are the other costs associated with program and who bears this cost? Are there any

other financial obligations that I take on through the introduction of the program?

Other than the cost of the iPad (if you do not have one at home), there are not expected to be any other financial implications or obligations arising as a result of the 1 : 1 BYOD iPad program. All associated IT costs, such as servers and wireless technology at the school or additional required software, will be funded by the school.

SECTION D – IMPLEMENTATION AND GENERAL ISSUES

Where do the iPads stay during the day?

The iPads will remain in the classroom for the whole of the school day at each student's desk or in their individual locker.

How will students carry and store the iPads – is a carry case included?

A robust cover and screen protector is essential in ensuring the iPad is protected at home and at school.

If my child is bringing their iPad and water bottle to school together isn't this a recipe for disaster?

Students will clearly need to keep water away from their iPads, as with any electronic equipment. This can be maintained by storing the iPad in a separate section of the bag. Students will be educated about how to care for their iPads and the importance of matters such as these.

My child can't even look after their lunchbox – how are they expected to look after an expensive piece of equipment?

We often do not give our own children enough credit – particularly considering eight year olds in some parts of the world have roles and responsibilities we cannot even imagine. On a lighter note it is incredible to see the calibre of children as young as 8 on "Junior Masterchef" when we may feel our own children aren't even capable to make a sandwich!

One of the many positive aspects of the 1 to 1 iPad program is that it instils responsibility in our children and they learn to value property and take responsibility for their belongings. We have every confidence that, in partnership with

parents, the children will be taught and learn very quickly the importance of being responsible for the iPad and they will take great pride in their ability to be responsible with it.

Isn't it inevitable that an iPad will be knocked, dropped or broken – what happens to my child then if they are without their iPad?

Accidents will be inevitable and this is the reason that all iPads will need to be insured under the family home and contents policy.

If an iPad is damaged or broken, the child will be able to borrow a school iPad in the short term while theirs is being repaired.

Why does my child have to bring the iPad home – wouldn't it be easier and safer to keep them at school?

The students are required to take their iPads home each night for a number of reasons, including security, the fact that it is most practical for children to back up and recharge their iPads each night at home, and the fact that they can gain full use of the iPad by having access to it at home.

Why does the program start at Year Three – aren't the children just too young at this age and aren't the basics of reading, writing and maths more important at this stage?

The implementation at Year Three is considered both age appropriate and fits in well with a four-year program that is designed to finish at the end of primary school and prior to the commencement of high school.

As explained previously, the school curriculum will be enhanced by the program – the students will still be taught and learn all the same skills. The iPad program will assist classroom teachers to differentiate their teaching and learning programs to cater for individual student needs.

Students typically turn 8 in Year Three and this is certainly not too young to learn how to use iPads and technology and to learn about responsibility and taking care of things.

What about associated health issues? Will the use of iPads be detrimental to posture, eye sight or other child development generally?

The school is of course very cognisant of all health related issues and the use of iPads in the classroom will be carefully planned and monitored to ensure the students wellbeing is in no way compromised. Part of the education process will include how to use iPads, posture, appropriate distances from screen, etc.

The school's policies will include mandatory breaks, stretching and relaxation techniques and the school will closely monitor all developments and recommendations with respect to occupational health issues and ensure best practice methods are adopted in classrooms at all times.

I still have further questions/issues in relation to the iPad program – where can I find out more information?

Further information will be provided in due course, including Information Sessions.

In the meantime, if you have any other questions, queries or concerns you can see the Principal or email admin@fjcs.wa.edu.au.

What are the next steps – is there anything I have to do?

All parents will be invited to attend a Parent Information Evening to be held in Term Four each year.



