



Dear Families,

2023 Upper Primary iPad Programme

St Michael's is proud of the technology program that we provide for our students. Since 2019 the school has implemented 1:1 iPads across the school in a blend of school owned devices and the BYOD iPad programme for **Middle & Senior Learning Community** students.

The use of technology in schools is crucial for our students as they live in this world with increasing digital demands. The Australian Curriculum specifies a digital curriculum be taught to all students and at St Michael's our students achieve this with the use of iPads. Students learn how to stay safe online, how to digitally create, explore, communicate and connect globally and collaborate in online environments.

The St Michael's BYOD programme is one where parents provide the device for their child to use at school and at home. Parents are encouraged to purchase the recommended iPad model for their child, which at present is the iPad 10.2-inch (9th Generation) 64Gb Wi-Fi model. Details of this model, along with other suitable models and suggested accessories are in the attached brochure. iPads can be purchased online, through the CompNow school purchasing portal or they can be purchased from any Apple retailer. We recommend that you order your student's iPad as soon as possible, as there have been stock shortages experienced in the past 18 months.

St Michael's takes Digital Citizenship education and safety seriously. In addition to their learning from the junior years, Year 4 students will undergo an 'iPad Boot Camp' early in Term 1 2023, where they will learn about the appropriate use of their iPad while at school and also undergo Digital Citizenship education. This initial education continues each year, with ongoing learning about cyber safety and responsible digital and online behaviour.

In addition, we regularly hold parent workshops in digital safety and encourage families to attend these sessions and learn more about keeping their children safe in a digital world. Students will be required to sign an agreement about their use of digital technology and will be held accountable to this.

We are committed to supporting families in continuing this education at home and are happy to meet with you, should you have questions about the BYOD iPad program or need support in implementing safe digital practices at home. For your reference, we have inserted a third party **Family Online Safety Contract** in our brochure that you may wish to use at home.

For further information, setup information and app lists please visit our iPad Information page here - <https://smlps.edublogs.org/ipad-programme/>.

If you require assistance or have any queries, please contact us at the school.

Regards

Terri Taylor
Principal

