



Milton State School

BYOD PROGRAM

Information and Procedures Handbook



NOTE: For clarification on anything in this handbook or for information / advice regarding any matter not covered by this handbook, please contact Milton State School's Head of Digital Learning, your child's teacher, or a member of the Executive Leadership Team.

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Foreword

This handbook has been compiled to provide a ready source of information for parents/carers and students about matters influencing the efficient running of the BYOD program. Each student should be thoroughly conversant with its contents and follow all guidelines. This handbook is subject to change.

Introduction

Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) have a critical role in enhancing the learning process at all levels and across a broad range of activities in each of the National Curriculum subject areas. Through the use of ICTs in the curriculum, we are helping students become knowledgeable about the nature of information, comfortable with the technology and able to exploit its potential.

The BYOD program is designed to help students keep up with the demands of the 21st century. Helping students become responsible digital citizens will enhance not only what we do in the classroom, but also give students skills and experiences that will prepare them for their future studies and career.

The overall philosophy is to use ICT whenever its speed, power, graphics or interactive potential can enhance and extend the quality of work being undertaken by students. It is used to develop logical thinking, problem solving and control techniques and also to give confidence and the capability to use ICTs in later life.

Our main goal is equipping and empowering students, rather than merely transferring knowledge – guiding students in learning to learn. We believe students are eager to learn and with guidance they will seek out and discover knowledge on their own.

In the BYOD program we aim to establish an environment and a relationship with children where they can feel safe, comfortable and are able to be encouraged to push themselves to the best of their abilities in all learning areas.

Whilst digital tools can be used to support and enhance teaching practice and learning experiences, **technology does not change what it takes to learn**. The **teacher**, through their guidance and explicit direction of the learning journey **remains the most critical factor within every classroom**.

What BYOD device do I need?

| DEVICE REQUIRED | HARDWARE/SOFTWARE SPECS |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iPad 6th Gen or newer • iPad Air 3rd Gen or newer • iPad Pro 2nd Gen or newer <p>Please Note: All iPad Mini, iPad generations 1-5 and iPad Air 1st and 2nd Gen models are unsuitable.</p> | <p>All storage options offered by these iPads are acceptable for the BYOD program.</p> <p>Minimum operating system: iOS 17</p> <p>When buying an iPad please keep in mind that older versions will not be supported for as long as a newer device.</p> |

Where can I purchase a device?

For convenience, Milton State School and JB HIFI have set up an online portal where you can purchase recommended devices. This is available on the school website. However, please feel free to shop independently at any tech retailer (e.g. Apple Store, JB HIFI, Officeworks, Harvey Norman etc). **We encourage you to look at ‘After Christmas’ and ‘back to school’ specials.**

Other BYOD Equipment required

Students may supply & store the following equipment at school:

Grade 1 – 3 iPad Accessories

A set of iPad specific headphones (3.5mm headphone jack) **ensure they fit with the case on*

- Stylus Pen or Apple Pencil (We recommend to attach this to a lanyard)
- iPad case
- iPad sleeve
- Clear, tempered glass, screen protector

Grade 4-6 Additional iPad Accessories

- iPad compatible Bluetooth keyboard
- Any other device-related peripherals negotiated with the teacher.

App/Software Requirements

All App and Software requirements can be located on our school website:

<https://miltonss.eq.edu.au/curriculum/bring-your-own-device> or by request from the class teacher.

The app list will also be sent home with booklists.

Setting up Devices and Help Guides

Step-by-Step Instructions and Help Guides can be found on our school website:

<https://miltonss.eq.edu.au/curriculum/bring-your-own-device>

BYOD PROCEDURES

When Should a BYOD be brought to Class?

Unless specifically advised otherwise by the teacher, students should bring their device to school every day and take it home every day. Some lessons will require the formal use of devices, while others will provide informal opportunities to use technology to complete tasks efficiently. It is imperative that the devices be available for use at the teacher's discretion. Since some lessons are specifically designed for the use of devices, students who fail to bring their device to school for a valid reason face consequences regarding their lack of preparation. If students inadvertently leave their device at home, they are to report to their teacher.

Name Labels on Devices

Students are expected to have their device clearly labelled with their name and able to be easily viewed while the iPad is in its case. It is recommended to also have a lock screen image that has the child's name.

All accessories should also be clearly labelled with the child's name.

Devices Charged

Students should arrive at school with their devices fully charged.

Transport of Devices

Devices must be transported to and from school in cases and sleeves and in their backpack.

iPads should be carried within the classroom with their cases closed and held with both hands.

Some carrying sleeves can hold other objects, such as clipboards and exercise books but these must be kept to a minimum to avoid placing too much pressure and weight on the screen.

Before and After School Hours Usage

Devices are not permitted to be used on school grounds before or after school without express permission of a teacher or parent/carer and under their direct supervision. Devices are not to be used until their teacher has directed them to do so.

Screens Down

When devices are in use and the teacher wishes to address the class, it is best for students to put their screens down so that they are not a distraction. The instruction to put their screens down should be complied with promptly.

Use of Headphones

Student may not use headphones or play music or audio clips on their devices in class without prior permission of the class teacher. A set of headphones should be kept in the designated area in the classroom. Headphones should have their name clearly written on them.

Game Apps

Students may have games on their devices. They are not permitted to use these during school hours.

Keyboard Skills

Students will be encouraged to develop the correct use of keyboarding skills. From Year 4 onwards, they will need to bring an external keyboard.

Lunchtime Usage

Students are not allowed to use their devices at lunchtime unless under the direct supervision of classroom teacher. Personal games or applications are not to be used during school hours.

Security of Devices

Devices will remain in classroom between 9am-3pm, with classrooms being locked whenever the class is not in the classroom or it is break time. Students may take their devices into classrooms once their teacher has opened the classroom for the day. Students must otherwise stay with their bags. Under no circumstances should devices be left in unsupervised areas.

Outside School Hours Care

Students using their devices at MOSHC should follow the directions of supervisors and follow school procedures. Devices should only be used in designated areas for identified purposes.

Access to School Internet

All students involved in the BYOD program will be provided with access to the school internet.

Saving Work

iPads save work automatically. Please do not sign in to iCloud on the student's device, as they will be unable to access it at school. At school, students may be asked to save work on the school server (W: Drive) via the FileBrowser app.

Mobile Network (3G/4G/5G) Connectivity

Due to school-based policy, 3G, 4G and 5G compatible devices are allowed into school on the proviso that **the SIM card is either removed or disabled**. This policy has been made to ensure that our school network is not compromised and that students are not able to access an unfiltered internet connection whilst at school.

School Expectations When Providing Students Access to ICT Facilities

- Schools will provide information in relation to student access and usage of its network and reserves the right to restrict/remove student access to the intranet, extranet, internet or

network facilities if parents/carers or students do not adhere to the school's network usage and access guideline/statement.

- Schools will prepare students for the possibility of unanticipated access to harmful information, materials or approaches from unknown persons via the Internet (e.g. explicitly teach processes for disregarding (or ceasing access) to information, the process for reporting accidental access to harmful information and reporting approaches from unknown persons via the internet to the supervising teacher or school staff member).
- When devices are being used, students will be closely monitored by teachers. Prior to class engagement, teachers will prepare the sites and directions given to students when accessing the internet – this will include filtering and checking sites students are directed to visit. An assessment should be made of the appropriate timeframe for access to the internet for completing the set task or duration a student should have access to the internet (e.g. during school hours, outside of school hours).

Monitoring Student Devices for Software Infringements, Inappropriate and Offensive Material (Device AUDIT)

Students may be selected on a random basis to provide their device for inspection for compliance with school and legal requirements.

Printing

Students should only print with teacher permission. They need to check how many pages they are printing and tell the teacher if it does not print the first time. Only the teacher can print work in colour.

Cyber Safety and Cyber Bullying

Students in Years 1-6 will receive sessions in being cybersmart – safe, responsible and respectable online.

Excursions

Students will not take devices on excursions unless otherwise directed to do so.

CARE OF DIGITAL DEVICES

Students are responsible for the general care of their device. Students are responsible for ensuring the battery is charged for school each day.

General Precautions

- It is recommended that food or drink should not be next to your device when in use. Please encourage children to **put drink bottles in the external pockets** of their bag;
- Cords, cables, and removable storage must be inserted into and removed from the iPad carefully;
- The iPad should never be left in a car or any unsupervised area.

Faults, Breakages & Repairs

All faults, breakages and repairs of BYO Devices are the responsibility of the user. Our school technician will support students with network and internet connectivity issues and basic troubleshooting, any other issues will be reported to parents/carers.

Screen Care

iPad screens can be easily damaged if subjected to rough treatment. They are particularly susceptible to damage from excessive pressure and can be costly to repair.

- Do not lean on the top of the iPad;
- Do not place anything near the iPad that could put pressure on the screen, especially when being transported in bags;
- Do not place anything in the carry case that will press against the cover;
- Do not poke the screen with an object; and
- Regularly clean the screen with a soft, dry cloth or anti-static cloth.

Battery Maintenance

The battery life of portable devices is improving as technological enhancements are made. To get the most out of the battery life, follow these simple tips:

- Reduce the screen brightness to a comfortable level;
- Close all running programs when not in use.

Damage at School

Teachers at school monitor all devices 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 on the part 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 result. The decision around the responsibility for repair costs is at the discretion of the Principal.

Protection and Insurance

While the BYO devices will be stored in classrooms during break times, **parents/carers are encouraged to seek personal insurance**. Check with your preferred insurance company (or even place of purchase) about your insurance cover at home and, to and from school, for your iPad.

Breaches of BYOD Procedures

- Any breaches of policies may result in the student being referred to school administration and discipline administered in accordance with the School Discipline Policy. This may include denial of access to devices for some time, and other consequences.
- Any breaches of the policy may incur suspension of device use for a designated period.
- Any breaches of these policies may result in demerits as set out in the classroom behaviour management policy.

Please note that any inappropriate online behaviour should be reported to the school Principal if it involves bullying between students at the school, or involves the use of school ICT resources. While some online content may be upsetting for students and parents/carers, if the content does not affect the good order and management of the school, it is unlikely that it will constitute grounds for a school to get involved. If online behaviours negatively impact the good order and management of the school, the Principal can take steps under their Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students or Student Code of Conduct.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why do you only allow the devices specified and no other personal mobile devices?

A: Education Queensland supports the iPad platform with technical advice, curriculum support and professional development for teachers.

Q: What will happen to students whose families choose not to participate in the BYOD program?

A: All students will be able to fully participate in all domains of curriculum delivery. Students who do not have their own device will have access to school devices. These will remain on school premises and not travel between home and school. Students may have to share a device with other students. It may also mean that work created by students such may be stored on externally to maximise iPad storage and backup functionality.

Q: For how much of the day will the devices be used? Will the students still be using pencil and paper as well as developing handwriting skills?

A: The Milton Early Years Team are an experienced group of early childhood educators. As such we are critically aware of the importance of building solid foundation literacy and numeracy capabilities. Neurological research supports the importance of children having multiple opportunities to practise both fine and gross motor movements to best consolidate and automate this learning. It is with this knowledge that we prescribe a measured approach to screen time and that it is used as a complementary learning tool alongside the traditional learning processes. We envisage that the devices will meet the curriculum time allocation required to teach competent ICT skills. There will be days when the devices are not accessed at all due to competing social, emotional and academic priorities. It will remain at the teacher's discretion as to how to deliver the best and most appropriate pedagogy for the learning intention.

Q: Will the devices be managed at home or at school e.g. loading apps, updating the operating system?

A: The devices will be managed at home. Teachers will guide and suggest applications that will benefit classroom learning. Teachers will communicate to parents/carers, via class newsletters, with adequate time given to families, to install apps ready for student use; most of these will be free. Families will be strongly encouraged to make a 'School Folder' for any apps/programs used while at school. This will help students separate home activity and learning activity. Parents/carers can choose to load additional apps that are not required by the school.

Q: Will I be expected to purchase a brand-new device?

A: No, you can choose to use a device that you already own or purchase a used device. However, it is important that it able to run the latest iOS. Please refer to Milton's device specifications and recommended models.

Q: Can my child use another child's device?

A: No, children will only ever be permitted to use their own device. If they do not bring their own device to school then their alternative access is via a school device.

Q: My child or I do not have any devices and we are not familiar with how to use one or even access applications. How do we get help?

A: As a community of learners we acknowledge that we are all at different stages of familiarity with technology and mobile devices. There are instructions and guides available on the school website. There are also plenty of online help websites that can assist with tech problems. Please contact the school if there are any issues you are unsure about.

Q: Do I need to change any of the 'apps' that are already on my iPad, as it is a device that the whole family currently uses?

A: There is a parental/carer responsibility to ensure that any content present on a device, that is intended for use within a classroom, is free of any images, applications or information that is in any way unsuitable for a child to use. Devices will be constantly monitored and checked by both teachers and administration. Parents/carers will be contacted if devices are found to have content that does not meet our high standard of student protection.

Q: How are you intending to stop the students playing games or watching videos or movies on their devices instead of doing the class activities?

A: Like all classroom activities and learning tasks, teachers will instruct and monitor student engagement to maximise learning. Devices will not be used to access movies or to be used as a gaming device in a classroom. They are tools for learning and each activity will have a clear learning intention attached. A critical function of the introduction of ICT within the Prep year is to foreground the importance of iPads as tools for information gathering, capturing learning and demonstration of skills.

Q: Will the children be allowed to use the devices outside?

A: Yes, if the learning requires the flexibility of outside use, this will be done under the careful supervision of a teacher. Students will be taught how to manage their devices in a safe and sensible manner.

Q: If the iPad is 3G/4G/5G capable, how will you stop students accessing the internet during the day?

A: Only Wi-Fi compatible models are acknowledged as Milton State School supported devices (please see policy for more information). This is an important safety precaution. All Wi-Fi access is filtered through the Education Queensland infrastructure that scans and blocks unrecognisable or inappropriate sites. This system also allows for the school to review and track site access.

Q: If Wi-Fi is accessible in the classroom how will you control students downloading their own apps?

A: Students are unable to access the AppStore while on the school network. The sourcing and downloading of applications will remain the responsibility of parents/carers, in the main part, to facilitate this on behalf of their children. This should be password-protected. Children will be encouraged to access only the apps that are school apps.

Q: What happens if a device gets accidentally or intentionally broken while at school?

A: If any damage to a device is through negligence on the part 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. As with any valuable, non-consumable property brought to school, we highly recommend ensuring coverage with your personal insurance.

Q: Will there be opportunities throughout the year for feedback and review of the program?

A: Yes, our focus is to ensure that the students at Milton State School receive the best quality education that we can provide. We value the perspective, engagement and feedback from our parent/carer community.

Q: Are parents/carers expected to pay for additional iCloud storage or iTunes accounts?

A: No, it is not expected, as there is no access to cloud storage via the Education Queensland Network.

Q: What if my Child's device is not able to update to the latest iOS?

A: The general experience will be roughly the same. However, they may notice that some steps or instructions are different from their classmates or they are simply not able to do some activities. Some apps or features of apps may not be compatible with an older iOS.