

iPad Frequently Asked Questions OCT 2017

Q	Why an iPad?
A	<i>iPads in the school environment are an ideal tool to deliver an innovative and varied curriculum. The iPad enables students to access the internet, school email, student diaries and other online digital curriculum resources. It allows students to word process, create spreadsheets, complete presentations and access a broad range of useful apps and information.</i>
Q	Which iPad should we purchase?
A	<i>We recommend that students purchase an iPad Air 2 (32Gb) or better, with Wi-Fi only. If students already have an iPad from their primary school or at home, that is fine, however, you may have to install some new apps.</i>
Q	Why not Cellular/3G?
A	<i>If students have Cellular/3G on their iPad the college cannot control the traffic on their internet connection, which may allow students to access inappropriate sites and cause the family to incur excessive internet charges.</i>
Q	Do we purchase the iPad from the college?
A	<i>No, you will be able to purchase an iPad cheaper than the college through any large retail stores or online when they are on special. You can purchase devices through the JBHIFI VSC site if you wish, they provide insurance and financing plans.</i> https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod/ ACCESS CODE: VSC2018
Q	How do we know which apps to purchase?
A	<i>An apps list can be found on the college internet website under 'Curriculum'. Please note that additional apps may be required over the course of the year.</i>
Q	Will I need an iTunes account to use the iPad?
A	<i>Yes, an iTunes account is required. VSC strongly advises that this account not be linked to a credit card.</i>
Q	How secure will the iPad be at school?
A	<i>Students will keep their iPads with them in class. At recess and lunchtime the iPads must be LOCKED in the student's locker.</i>
Q	Are the iPads insured by the school?
A	<i>No, the college does not insure student's personal property. However; Apple are introducing iPad insurance (ask at an Apple Store or online). You may also be able to cover the iPad under your home contents insurance. If you purchase via the JB HIFI VSC site they provide an insurance option. See section 4 above for link</i>
Q	How do we load apps onto the iPad?
A	<i>If you have internet access at home you will need to set up an iTunes account on your home desktop/notebook/netbook/ultrabook computer. If you want to control the account and not give access to a credit/debit card, the college suggests that families purchase an iTunes gift card. This will give you credit to purchase the required apps. iTunes gift cards are often on special at Supermarkets or big department stores. (They are often reduced around Christmas time).</i>

Q	Can apps be installed/updated at school?
A	<i>Yes, apps can be installed/updated at school, however, because of the large amount of internet traffic in the college, it is more efficient to install and update apps at home. Apps need to be updated on a regular basis when notified.</i>
Q	How will students use iPads at school?
A	<i>iPad apps are used on a daily basis for research, literacy, numeracy, to document, organise and construct work. iPads dramatically reduce the weight of books and materials that students need to carry.</i>
Q	Does the iPad need to be in a case?
A	<i>Definitely. The biggest potential problem with using the iPad is breakage. We recommend a slim line case and also a pouch to carry the iPad from class to class (contact the college for more details if you are unsure). Good quality cases and stylus can be bought through Campion.</i>
Q	What support will my child receive?
A	<i>VSC staff provide support during the school year. The college elects iPad assistants to advise fellow students and support is available via our IT department and Library. An IT SUPPORT (STUDENTS) page is provided on VSC Moodle. Students can email itsupport@vermontsc.vic.edu.au for tech assistance or pop into C22. The college encourages each family to familiarise themselves with iPad functions prior to starting school. There are a number of free apps that support the use of iPads. (iPad User Guide & iPad Secrets)</i>
Q	What support can I give my child?
A	<i>Familiarity and discussion of issues surrounding basic online etiquette and digital privacy assists in developing and broadening student awareness of online protocols and safety.</i>
Q	An iPad has no USB port, how do I transfer files?
A	<i>There are several ways to transfer files:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The iPad can be plugged into a home desktop/notebook/netbook/computer</i> • <i>The files can be sent via email</i> • <i>The files can be sent via cloud-based technologies such as Google Drive.</i>
Q	Will reading from my iPad hurt my eyes?
A	<i>Regular breaks ie 5 minutes every half hour, from using any ICT device are highly recommended. iPads will NOT be used every minute of every period and will NOT be used at recess and lunchtime except in the Library for homework only. The iPad can be adjusted for brightness to suit the user's personal preference and the font size can also be easily adjusted.</i>
Q	How is student access to inappropriate material controlled?
A	<i>The college has an extensive filtering system and controls what can be accessed through the college's computer network; at home you do not have the same control. If you are concerned, there are parent locks available through the Apps Store. Also refer to the 'iPad Handbook'.</i>