

iPads

in the Primary Years

FAQs

Why have we decided to use iPads for Reynella East College Primary students?

Computers have always provided excellent ways to facilitate learning. The research leaves us in no doubt of the benefits and we want REC students to become competent digital citizens.

iPads offer portability and flexibility that a traditional PC or laptop cannot provide to a young child; they can go wherever the child goes and are light and portable. Since it utilizes a touchscreen, the iPad is more accessible for children who have learning or coordination difficulties. Most children who use the iPad find that tapping and sliding motions are much easier than typing.

Since iPads have customizable options, the iPad can be tailored to the child and his/her specific needs, which make them more attractive than traditional learning devices. In fact, many children can master the use of an iPad faster than adults. We also believe this will be the right tool for our older primary students; at Brighton Secondary School iPads are now used in place of laptops for students to Year 10.

iPads will allow our students to have log on to the school network with a simple log in. The educational Apps available to us are quite amazing and promote critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity.

Can my child take the iPad home?

Yes. The iPad is available 24/7 for your child's use.

The Reynella East College (REC) vision: Use of ICT whenever and wherever appropriate within and beyond the site, to extend all learners capacity to learn for themselves supporting staff to complement and extend teaching, learning and the curriculum.

What is the full cost to me as a parent?

There will be a parent co-contribution through the materials and services fees. This means that you will pay for a proportion of the iPad program over three years. REC will also contribute to the cost of the iPad program. The iPad will come with a protective cover and all educational Apps will be installed.

At the end of the 3 year period (2 years for Years 6/7), who will own the iPad?

The iPad remains the school's property for the life of the device until the end of the device's 2 or 3-year lifecycle. If all school materials and services fees have been paid, it can then be owned by the student for a payment of a nominal fee. The iPad will then belong to your child. A new device will be issued in the following year if they are going into Year 3 or Year 6.

Note: Year 7 students will only have the iPad for a two year period (issued at the beginning of Year 6). At the end of Year 7 you may choose to return the iPad to REC or pay out the residual cost and own the device outright.

What if I my child leaves REC, who owns the iPad?

You will have the option of returning the iPad to REC or paying out the residual amount owing to own the iPad outright.

What type of iPad will my child get?

- Reception students: iPad Air 2, 32G Wi-Fi model.
- Year 3 and Year 6 students: iPad Air 2, 128G Wi-Fi model.

Will parents/carers be required to pay for Apps?

No, all educational Apps will be included.

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

One of the many positive aspects of the 1:1 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/carers, the children will be taught and learn very quickly the importance of being responsible for their iPad and they will take great pride in their ability to be responsible with it. We've checked with a number of other schools and they assure us that very little damage occurs and even very young students learn how to care for their iPads to keep them safe.

Do the iPads come with a warranty? Will the iPads be insured or do I need to arrange this myself?

The warranty includes accidental damage for one screen repair. A \$40 claim fee will be charged in this instance. A 'hot swap' until the repair is completed will insure continuity of learning. Please contact REC immediately you are aware of any damage to the iPad.

It is highly recommended that parents/carers fully insure their child's iPad to include loss or theft. This may be done through your own personal Home & Contents policy. Please contact your insurance company for more information.

Why does the program start with Reception, Year 3 and Year 6 students?

An iPad is generally considered most effective for 3 years from the date of purchase. After that time they can become slow and less able to cope with upgrades in software. For REC to be able to fund this program we need to roll it out over three years.

| 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Year 8: Laptops Year 11/12: BYOD | Reception: iPads Year 3: iPads Year 6: iPads Year 8: Laptops Year 9: Laptops Year 10/11/12: BYOD Optional BYOD iPads * for students in composite classes. e.g. Year 7s | Reception: iPads Year 1: iPads Year 3: iPads Year 4: iPads Year 6: iPads Year 7: iPads Yr 8-10 laptops Yr 11-12 BYOD | R-2 iPads 3-7 iPads Yr 8-10 laptops Yr 11-12 |

* Possible purchase via portal (to be advised)

* Existing home purchased (must be 2 years old or less to be school supported)

What if my child is not in Reception, Year 3 or Year 6 in 2017, won't they be disadvantaged by not having an iPad?

Students in composite classes will have additional iPads accessible for class use. e.g a Year 2/3 class will have a bank of iPads accessible for the Year 2s. This is unlikely however to be on a 1:1 basis.

All other classes will have the same access to technology that they have now. (laptops on trolleys)

Aren't the children just too young at this age—won't my child's basic numeracy, literacy and handwriting suffer if they spend time on their iPad?

There is overwhelming evidence that access to technology has definite benefits for students of all ages. The iPad will not replace these core learning areas but will enhance and engage the learning for students. Students will still be taught numeracy, literacy, handwriting and other subjects and iPads will complement the learning in many of these areas. For example, Apps are available that teach basic numeracy and literacy skills through a far more individualised approach than is physically possible in a standard class of 24-30 students. The iPad program will also assist classroom teachers to differentiate and cater for individual learning needs.

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

Yes. REC has an IT infrastructure with a high-speed wireless solution. Our highly skilled IT team are well prepared to support the 1:1 iPad program.

We will be installing all educational Apps through an MDM (Mobile Device Management) system. This allows us to push out software updates and Apps as well as reset passwords if necessary.

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 10 hours. All students will be asked to bring their iPad to school fully charged so that their learning is not interrupted. REC will also provide a 10 point charging unit in every classroom.

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?

At REC there is protection provided by our proxy filters that restrict access to inappropriate sites and materials. As you know, we already have in place agreements dealing with Internet use. Internet access will be supervised at all times.

When using the iPad at home the filters will not apply and it is the responsibility of the parent to monitor acceptable usage and Internet access. We will organise parent information sessions to support you with strategies and Apps to manage this.

Is there an agreement I need to sign before my child is allowed to collect his/her iPad?

Yes. In addition to the standard Internet agreement all students at REC currently agree to, a new User Agreement in relation to using an iPad will be introduced.

What happens if my child misuses their iPad?

The iPad will be removed if your child is in breach of our Acceptable User Policy and/or the new User Agreement. A discussion with parents/carers for further consequences will be arranged.

Will students be able to use Facebook on the iPad?

No. Students will not be able to access Facebook at school. Facebook accounts are illegal for persons under the age of 13.

How will backups occur and who will have the responsibility for this?

Backup on an iPad is known as 'syncing'. Syncing will need to occur from time to time. This can be done in one of three ways:

1. Connecting to a home computer
2. Using iCloud to do this wirelessly from home
3. Syncing at school overnight (this option is recommended for students who do not have internet access at home)

Don't worry, if you don't have internet access at home we'll take care of this at school!

Will students need an Apple ID and iTunes account?

No, this is not essential however you may wish to do this if you have a home internet access and want to install music and additional Apps on the iPad. In this instance we recommend that parents/carers create a new Apple ID with their home email account, so that parents/carers can monitor the purchasing of content from the iTunes Store. It is your decision as a parent whether you share the Apple ID password with your child.

Will parents/carers need to have a credit card to register for an iTunes account?

No. If you wish you can set up an iTunes account without the need of a credit card. A voucher can be purchased if you want your child to purchase Apps. This redeemable voucher will replace the need for credit card details.

Are students allowed to install Apps, music and games on the iPads?

Yes, the device can be personalised by students but priority should be given to educational Apps installed by REC. Whilst students can load their own software applications or Apps we request that this be restricted to ensure such software does not impact on the performance of the iPads generally.

It should be remembered this will be a REC learning device and it should be appropriate for the environment in which it will be used. Reports of inappropriate content being exhibited will result in some form of consequence as per the User Agreement.

As a parent I don't know much about computers. Will there be any support for parents/carers if the iPads are to be used at home?

Yes. There will be scheduled information evenings to help assist and support parents/carers. Don't forget, children learn very quickly and will soon become digital leaders and in a position to support you at home!