

iPad BYOD Program Information & FAQ

Why iPads for Primary School Students?

To prepare students to succeed in an ever-changing world, they need to think like entrepreneurs — resourceful, flexible, creative, and global. The use of iPads across the school offers students another method of accessing and demonstrating learning. Bull Creek Primary School is committed to providing positive, innovative learning opportunities by integrating technology into classroom practice to enhance participation and engagement.

Why Introduce a 1:1 Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Program?

Introducing iPads enables students to fulfil their potential in a supported and supervised environment. BYOD does not reduce the role of the teacher — rather, it enhances learning. Teachers remain the facilitators of instruction and design engaging, relevant learning experiences that meet student needs at any point in time.

The BYOD program at Bull Creek Primary School is not compulsory. Students without their own device will continue to access shared school iPads; however, these shared devices remain at school and cannot be taken home.

Curriculum Focus

English and Mathematics remain the top priorities at Bull Creek Primary School. The iPad is a learning tool that enhances and extends these skills, providing opportunities that go beyond traditional methods. Devices are used for learning — not for gaming — and lessons are carefully balanced between digital and hands-on learning experiences.

Why iPads?

- Compatible with the school's existing Apple systems and classroom technology
- Offers a balance of creativity, problem solving and critical thinking tools
- Intuitive and secure, with regular software updates and strong parental controls
- Portable and durable — suited to primary school environments
- Cost-effective: a device purchased in upper primary can typically last several years

Recommended Devices

- Preferred Model: iPad (11th Generation / A16 chip)
- Minimum Requirement: iPad (9th Generation or newer)
- Storage: 128 GB
- Cellular: Non-cellular (Wi-Fi only)

Older devices are not advised as they may not support required updates or school apps in the future.

Purchasing an iPad

Families may purchase from any retailer. Bull Creek Primary School has partnered with Winthrop Australia to provide families with education pricing, leasing options, and suitable accessories.

Recommended accessories:

- Heavy-duty protective case (keyboard cases are a great option, as they leave the USB-C port free for the headphones)
- Screen protector
- Headphones
- Optional: Apple Pencil (rarely required for classroom tasks)

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

Insurance and Care

- iPads are not covered by the school or Department of Education insurance.
- Families are encouraged to check coverage with their home contents insurer.
- AppleCare can be purchased for extended warranty and accidental damage cover.
- Ensure your child's iPad is brought to school fully charged each day.
- Devices must be handled responsibly — misuse may lead to restricted access.

If an iPad is damaged and unusable, please inform your child's teacher. A shared school device may be temporarily provided while repairs are arranged.

JAMF School (Mobile Device Management - MDM)

All student iPads will be connected through JAMF School, a Mobile Device Management (MDM) system. This allows the school to:

- Distribute and manage educational apps
- Apply settings and restrictions during school hours
- Support safe and consistent device use
- Integrate seamlessly with Apple Classroom, enabling teachers to guide lessons and monitor activity

Parent Access:

The JAMF Parent App lets families:

- Set limits on social media, messaging, or gaming during homework or bedtime
- Restrict specific websites or apps
- See whether your child's device is online

This shared management approach supports responsible, focused device use at both school and home. More information is available on the school website

Internet Use and Online Safety

Internet access is closely supervised by teachers and filtered through the Department of Education's secure network. These protections block inappropriate content while connected to the school Wi-Fi.

Students are also taught:

- Safe and responsible browsing practices
- Digital citizenship and cyber-safety
- Respectful online behaviour

If students misuse their iPad or breach digital expectations, access to their device or the school network may be restricted.

Outside school hours (including before 8:30am, after 3:00pm, and during Camp Australia), internet use is the responsibility of parents or carers.

Mobile Phone & Device Policy

Under the Department of Education's Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy (effective Term 1, 2020), all personal mobile devices — including iPads — must not be used for personal purposes from arrival at school until the end of the school day.

If a parent needs to contact their child during school hours, this must occur through the Front Office. Breaches of this policy may affect a student's Good Standing.

Parental Responsibilities

Parents and carers are expected to:

- Charge the device each night ready for school
- Ensure iPads are updated regularly (software and apps)
- Support responsible digital use at home
- Maintain insurance and organise repairs if required

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Will students still learn to read and write?

A. Absolutely. Reading and writing remain the foundation of learning. The iPad enhances — not replaces — traditional literacy and numeracy practices.

Q. How much time will students spend on iPads each day?

A. Teachers plan balanced lessons combining digital, collaborative, and hands-on tasks. Students are taught mindful device use and how to manage screen time effectively.

Q. How are devices stored at school?

A. iPads are stored securely in classrooms. Rooms are locked when unattended, and devices remain on desks or in designated storage areas during the day.

Q. What if a family cannot afford an iPad?

A. Shared school-owned devices are available to ensure all students can participate in digital learning. However, 1:1 access cannot always be guaranteed.

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Q. Who maintains the iPad?

A. Families are responsible for maintaining, updating, and charging their child's device.

Q. Will there be extra costs for apps?

A. No. All required school apps are installed through JAMF and provided free of charge.

Q. What happens if a student misuses their device?

A. All students sign a Responsible Use Agreement. Misuse may lead to temporary loss of device privileges and/or network access.

Q. How long will the iPad last?

A. With proper care, the device should last 3+ years — typically through to the end of Year 6. Warranty generally covers 2 years, and optional AppleCare provides additional protection.

Q. Do other schools run similar programs?

A. Yes. Many WA primary schools use 1:1 iPad programs, helping students build digital literacy and 21st-century learning skills.

In Summary

The Bull Creek Primary BYOD iPad Program aims to:

- Empower students with flexible, creative learning tools
- Strengthen digital literacy and engagement
- Maintain a safe, managed digital environment for all users
- Partner with families to ensure responsible use at school and home