Dear Parents/Guardians,

Technology at the College moving into 2021

At St John's College, we appreciate how important technology is in creating a rich learning environment for our students' future. For students to use technology in a supported and safe manner, we have designed the laptop programs at the College to be deployed in an 'age and stage' appropriate manner.

Technology in the Junior School

In Foundation to Year 2, students start their journey using the multitouch environment of a ThinkPad. These devices have three usage modes: tent, tablet, and laptop. They include a camera and a touch pen to provide as many opportunities as possible for our young learners to engage with their learning. As their skills grow and the Digital Technologies Curriculum of the College becomes more advanced, students in Years 3 to Year 6 will have access to a dedicated suite of All in One Devices as well as access to a more powerful laptop for use in their classroom. Between these year groups there will be four class sets of devices building upon the skills learned during their initial years at the College.

Technology in Senior School

As our students begin their Senior School Journey, our 1 to 1 device program gives students more responsibility while continuing to provide support for them to develop strong digital skills and good cyber citizenship. Student devices in years 7 to 12 are family owned and maintained.

Purchase Panel

A purchase panel offers a limited choice of devices that have been pre-approved by the College for students and parents to purchase. When a family purchases a device from the purchase panel, they will then bring them to school so that they can be enrolled into our College mobile device management system and joined to our school network. Devices purchased via the purchase panel will be delivered straight to families at home. These arrangements are for students entering Year 7 and any new students entering the College in the senior school years.

The purchase panel is organised through Winthrop, who are our ICT managed services company. This model is akin to a BYOD model in that families will be dealing with Winthrop directly and that the College takes no part in this arrangement. Any breakages, repairs or warranty claims will be dealt with between the parents and Winthrop.

Please click on the link to access the purchase panel:

https://sales.winaust.com.au/shop/stjcpreston

Special Arrangements for 2021

We understand that during this extraordinary year that families may already have bought devices for their children to use whilst learning from home. Whilst we encourage the use of the purchase panel, for 2021 we will endeavour to allow students to bring devices they have already purchased, provided that these devices satisfy the latest operating system requirements. Devices that do not support these minimum requirements will not be able to be connected to our network.

Minimum Specifications and other information

Windows
Each device must operate on Windows 10 Pro (MUST be Pro version of Windows 10. If Windows 10 Home, this will require upgrade at the family's expense)

Software
Students will have access to Microsoft 365 and antivirus software via their St John's College login. If additional software is required to complete coursework the college will make provisions to ensure it can be easily accessed and installed by students using our BYOD portal.

How will BYOD work in the classroom?
Students will be responsible for ensuring that their device is fully charged each day, in working order and capable of meeting the technological requirements of the class. By encouraging the use of devices from the purchase panel, the College will be more able to equip teachers with the skills they need to support students when learning.

St John's College IT rules and policies?
All students must comply with the requirements of the college Information Communication Technology policy. Before students can start using their laptop they must read and sign the ICT policy. Failure to do so and breaches of the ICT policy will lead to consequences, such as the device being confiscated.

Recommended Operating System
All devices must be able to run the most current operating system version.
- Windows laptops must have:
  - Windows 10 Pro (Windows 10 Home can be upgraded to Pro)
  - i5 processor or above
  - 8Gg RAM or above
  - 250G hard drive or above (preferred SSD Drive)

** Please note that changes to software are continually being made by manufacturers. As such, students may be required to upgrade their device's operating system in the future.

Warranty and Insurance
It is the parent's responsibility to consider insurance and warranty requirements for their child's device. **St John's College will not service hardware repairs to BYOD.** Be aware of the manufacturer's terms and conditions regarding warranty and insurance. This will be covered when purchasing a device through the purchase panel.

Carry cases and Covers

All laptops must have a proper protective case which will provide protection against accidental damage that would not be covered by a manufacturer's warranty claim. The best insurance against damage is a protective case.

ICT Levy

The ICT Levy is a compulsory charge and is incorporated into the fee schedule. This levy covers the provision of ICT support and access to on-site ICT. This includes networking infrastructure and hardware (computers/touch pads/printers/robotics etc.), Microsoft 365 and SEQTA licensing, internet access and connectivity, onsite anti-virus and firewall protection, and technical support. The ICT Levy also covers online subscriptions, learning programs and support including, but not limited to, EdRolo (VCE), Mappen (Junior School), literacy and numeracy programs F-10, and ACER PAT testing.

What happens next?

On the first day of school students will run through the deployment process so that their device is set up and students are ready to learn using the St John's Account.

If you have any queries or questions about the BYOD programme, please contact myself by phoning the College using the details below or email me at jac.manison@stjohnspreston.vic.edu.au.

Yours faithfully,

Jac Manison

Head of Digital Practice