



BYO iPad

Parent Information Handbook

2027 • Years 4–6

A practical guide for families preparing for the 1:1 iPad program.

Please keep this handbook as a reference throughout the school year.

1. Welcome to the 1:1 iPad Program

At The Gap State School, our goal is to help students become safe, responsible and capable digital citizens. iPads are learning tools that support collaboration, creativity, communication, critical thinking and personalised learning.

The 1:1 program operates across Years 4–6. Families may participate by purchasing and, providing a compatible BYO iPad, or accessing a school-managed equity device. All participating devices are enrolled in the school's Mobile Device Management (MDM) system.

How iPads support learning

- Students can create and demonstrate learning using text, images, audio and video.
- Digital tools support inquiry, collaboration, problem-solving and reflection.
- Teachers use technology purposefully alongside traditional learning approaches.
- Platforms such as OneNote, QLearn and Microsoft 365 support learning and feedback.

Our shared goal

The iPad is a tool for learning—not simply a device for entertainment. Students are taught when, why and how to use technology effectively and responsibly.

2. What Families Need to Know

The school and families work together to make the program safe, equitable and successful.

The school	Parents & carers
Provides a secure, filtered and monitored school network.	Discuss safe and positive technology use with your child.
Manages participating devices through Intune.	Ensure the iPad is charged and cared for.
Provides access to required curriculum apps.	Sign and discuss the Student Participation Agreement.
Teaches digital safety, privacy and responsible participation.	Set appropriate boundaries for technology use at home.
Provides shared devices where required to support equitable access.	Contact the school if financial circumstances affect access.

Need help with access?

If purchasing a device is a financial difficulty, please contact the school office confidentially. Options are available to support continuity of learning and equitable access.

3. Choosing an iPad

The 2027 school policy recommends an iPad that can install iPadOS 27 and is suitable for the full three-year Years 4–6 program.

Minimum requirements

- The iPad must be compatible with iPadOS 27.
- Wi-Fi capable only; no SIM capability is required.
- Check the model under Settings → General → About → Model / Model Number.
- If buying a used or refurbished iPad, check the battery health.
- 128 GB storage is recommended to provide room for apps, files and operating-system updates.

Accessories

- Sturdy protective case — strongly recommended.
- Good charger.
- Keyboard — required.
- Headphones with microphone — required.
- Stylus — optional.
- Insurance – recommended.

Examples of compatible models

- Apple iPad (9th generation) and later compatible models. This is the earliest iPad that supports iPadOS 27. It meets the minimum requirements but may need to be replaced in 1-2 years. The A16 is the current base model, a newer generation can be a balanced choice which supports iPadOS 27.
- Apple iPad Air (M2, M3, M4 - 11-inch) – newer, faster, better specifications for longevity.
- Apple iPad Pro (M4 and later).
- Apple iPad Pro 11-inch (2nd generation) and later. Premium device; may exceed requirements for the school program but certainly “future-proof”.

Think beyond the minimum

The device will be used for three years and will be managed through Intune. Choosing a device that is no more than 2 years old with some extra capacity can provide greater longevity.

4. Microsoft Intune & Device Management

The school is moving from JAMF to Microsoft Intune. Intune is a Department provided mobile device management platform used to help keep school devices secure and provide access to required educational apps.

- Intune helps apply school security and management settings.
- It allows the school to install required educational apps.
- Families retain control of the device at home within the settings available to them.
- Participating devices are enrolled in the school’s MDM system.

What parents may notice

Some school settings, accounts or apps may be configured as part of the school’s management of the device. This is part of keeping the device secure and ready for learning.

5. Everyday iPad Expectations

- Bring the iPad to school fully charged each day.
- Carry the iPad with two hands and walk while carrying it.
- Keep the iPad in the school bag when travelling to and from school.
- Keep food, drinks and liquids away from the iPad.
- Report accidents or breakages immediately.
- Use the iPad in a way that supports safe posture and reduces eye or back strain.
- Store the iPad carefully when it is not in use.
- Stop using the iPad immediately when directed by a teacher.

6. Safe, Respectful & Responsible Use

Students are expected to follow the school's Student Code of Conduct, Student Participation Agreement and digital citizenship expectations.

At school, students will:

- Use the iPad only for the learning purpose directed by their teacher.
- Use the Department's secure, filtered network for educational purposes.
- Use their school email account for learning-related emails.
- Follow teacher instructions about websites, apps and online activities.
- Only use AirDrop when instructed by staff for learning.
- Not use iMessage or other chat apps during school time.
- Keep usernames and passwords private, except when staff request them for servicing the iPad.

Photos, video and audio

- Students may only take photos or record sound/video when their teacher gives permission.
- Permission must also be given by the person or people being recorded.
- Students must not share, AirDrop or post photos, audio or video involving the school's name, crest or uniform where this could negatively affect the school community.

Privacy & online safety

- Students should only access websites that support learning activities as instructed by their teacher.
- Students must not share personal information on websites.
- School email is monitored and must be used appropriately.
- Students must use the iPad lawfully and in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Digital wellbeing matters

Students are encouraged to balance screen time, take regular breaks, use safe posture and maintain appropriate sound levels.

Appendix 1: BYO iPad Program Student Participation Agreement 2027

[The Gap State School Student Code of Conduct](#)

7. Caring for the iPad

- Charge the iPad every afternoon/evening so it starts each school day fully charged.
- Keep the iPad in a protective case.
- Keep liquids, food and drinks away from the device.
- Do not leave the iPad unattended in an unsecured location.
- Keep the iPad with you or in your classroom when it is not in use.
- Report damage or breakage immediately.
- Back up important files and learning.

Families are responsible for the care of their BYO device. A protective case and appropriate warranty/insurance cover are recommended for a three-year program.

8. The School Network & Apps

The school uses the Department of Education's secure network, filtered internet and monitored email services for educational purposes. Third-party apps and platforms used in classrooms are required to meet Departmental privacy and security standards, with parental consent sought where required.

The school's 2027 year-level app lists provide information about required learning apps.

[Year 4 Apps List 2027](#)

[Year 5 Apps List 2027](#)

[Year 6 Apps List 2027](#)

9. If Something Goes Wrong

My child has forgotten their password.

A new password will be set during the first week of school if the student has forgotten their Department of Education password. Please email your classroom teacher.

The iPad is damaged.

Report the accident or breakage immediately and follow the school's directions.

The iPad has been left at home.

Follow the classroom arrangements provided by the teacher. Shared school devices remain available to support access to digital learning where required.

Our family cannot purchase an iPad.

Please contact the school office confidentially. The school has options to support equitable access.

Can my child use the iPad for messaging at school?

No. Students are not to use iMessage or other chat apps during school time.

Can my child take photos at school?

Only when permitted by the teacher and by the person or people being recorded.

What if my child repeatedly misuses the iPad?

Inappropriate use may result in loss of the privilege to use the iPad for a period of time. Regular breaches may result in authorisation to use the device at school being removed for a longer period.

10. Our Partnership with Families

Parents and carers play an important role in helping students develop healthy, safe and responsible digital habits. Talk with your child about what they are learning and creating, set clear expectations for online use, and encourage them to care for their device.

We are here to support every learner

If you have questions about the BYO iPad program or concerns about access, please contact The Gap State School. Our priority is that every student can participate in learning safely and successfully.

11. Student Participation Agreement

Before participating in the 1:1 iPad program, students and parents/carers must discuss and sign the BYO iPad Program Student Participation Agreement.

The agreement covers:

- General device care and safe use.
- Appropriate content and learning use.
- Online safety and privacy.
- Email and communication expectations.
- Photo, video and audio recording.
- Consequences for inappropriate use.

Students understand that failing to follow the agreement may result in the authorisation to use their iPad at school being suspended or removed, depending on the circumstances and frequency of breaches.

12. Family Checklist

- ☐ I have checked that the iPad meets the school's requirements.
- ☐ The iPad has a protective case.
- ☐ A keyboard and headphones with microphone are available.
- ☐ The iPad is updated.
- ☐ My child's Apple ID is signed in.
- ☐ A passcode has been set.
- ☐ We have the EQ username and password.
- ☐ The iPad has been given a clear name.
- ☐ We understand the expectations for safe and respectful use.
- ☐ We have discussed the Student Participation Agreement together.

Appendix 1

BYO iPad Program Student Participation Agreement 2027

General use:

1. I will ensure the iPad is charged each afternoon/evening, so it is fully charged at the beginning of each school day.
2. I will hold the iPad with two hands when carrying it and will walk with it at all times.
3. I will ensure my iPad is kept in my school bag on my trip to/from school.
4. I will keep liquids, food and drinks away from the iPad at all times.
5. I will immediately report any accidents or breakages.
6. I will position the iPad correctly to avoid back and eye strain.
7. I will carefully store the iPad when the iPad is not in use.
8. I will cease using the iPad immediately as directed.

Content:

1. I will use the iPad only for the purposes my teacher tells me.
2. I permit staff, parents and caregivers to perform checks to monitor content, ensure I have not installed illegal/unsuitable software applications and content and to check the websites I visit.
3. I understand there will be consequences for inappropriate use including, but not limited to, loss of privilege of use of the iPad for a period of time.
4. I am responsible to ensure my iPad is backed up.

Safety and Security:

1. I will only go onto the internet to websites at school that support learning activities, as instructed by my teacher. I will not share any personal information on any website.
2. I will only use my school email account for emails relating to my learning. I understand that all emails to/from my school email account are monitored and there will be consequences for inappropriate use.
3. I will only take photos and record sound and/or video when granted permission by my teacher and by any person/people to be included in the photo, video or audio recording.
4. The school's name, crest or uniform will not be used in any way which would result in a negative impact for the school and its community. I will not share, airdrop or post photos, audio or video of such.
5. I will only use airdrop to support learning activities when instructed by staff.
6. I will not use iMessage or other chat apps in school time.
7. I will not share any usernames or passwords with anyone unless requested by staff when servicing the iPad.
8. I will use the iPad lawfully and in accordance with The Gap State School's Student Code of Conduct.
9. I understand that I am responsible for the iPad and will ensure it is on my person or in my classroom if not in use. I will not leave the iPad unattended in an unsecure location.

I have discussed all of the above expectations with my parent/s and/or caregiver. I understand if the above conditions are not followed, I will not be granted the authorisation to use my iPad at The Gap State School for a period of time. I understand that if I regularly breach the Student Participation Agreement, the authorisation to use my iPad at school will be removed for a longer period of time.

Name of student: _____ Student signature: _____

Name of parent: _____ Parent signature: _____

Date: _____

Authorised at The Gap State School by:

Principal name: Mrs. Stubbings Principal signature: _____

Date: _____