



ALL SAINTS GRAMMAR
A GREEK ORTHODOX SCHOOL FOR BOYS & GIRLS

**INTEGRATING
TECHNOLOGY
FOR
LEARNING AT
ALL SAINTS GRAMMAR**

September 2016

VISION

At All Saints Grammar we are committed to creating and sustaining an educational environment where:

- *Teachers and students are engaged in meaningful, relevant student centred learning.*
- *Teaching and learning practices are continuously evaluated and revised to ensure innovation and creativity.*
- *Teaching and learning focusses on self-reflective and collaborative practices.*
- *Teaching and learning enhances the skills required by responsible digital citizens.*

Integrating Technology for Learning



All Saints Grammar has embarked on a learning program that integrates technology, across the board. This means that as part of the School's learning framework, the use of technology plays a significant role in enhancing and facilitating student learning. As such, students in Years 3 - 12 learn at school using their own technology. A range of devices, recommended for purchase, are outlined in



the Device Selection document.

Students at All Saints Grammar use a device of their choice, during their day-to-day lessons to assist in their learning processes under the guidance of their teacher. Students can access learning resources while using any number of school owned and personal BYOT devices which best fit their immediate purpose switching seamlessly between them as required to enhance the learning experience.



Our Integrating Technology program includes:

- Technology being used across all faculties as a tool to assist and facilitate the learning process.
- A personally owned device that gives the student greater accessibility to learning resources.
- Students quickly connect to the school's network.
- Students are able to switch between applications and software with relative ease, producing work and engaging seamlessly in the learning activities.

It is acknowledged that students are already using technology in the home for entertainment, communication and as an educational tool to assist their learning. Integrating Technology at All Saints Grammar now allows students to use the same technology they are currently using at home, at school.



During students' early years of education at All Saints Grammar, the school has taken a leadership role in the selection of the technology device to be used by the students. Using the same device allows students to master the device's potential and learn in a structured environment. In combination with existing school owned hardware, students have exposure to a diversity of technology based learning experiences over multiple platforms both at school and at home.

In the middle and later years of schooling, technology devices selected to reflect the students' interests and endeavours, assist their learning. The students' choice of a personal technology device caters for their own needs across all subjects and is not determined by equipment available at school, thus allowing students greater control of, and flexibility in their own learning. This is the core intention and purpose of the BYOT program.

Our aim is for students to realise and exploit the advantages of integrating technologies into everyday learning tasks.

Enhancing Learning Through the Use of Technology

Integrating Technology for students in Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K), Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2.

The Primary campus currently supports existing school owned iPads from Pre-K to Year 2. iPads are provided in class / year group sets and are shared by a number of students. We aim to work towards increasing the number of devices to a desired ratio that gives students of PK to Year 2 the best learning benefits.

Integrating Technology for students in Years 3 to 5.

In Years 3 to 5, All Saints Grammar extends on the introduction received in Pre-Kindergarten to Year 2. We continue to focus on providing an educational learning solution using a range of educational applications (Apps) delivered on Apple iPads as well as the school owned equipment.

Students engage in the BYOT program by bringing a personally owned iPad to school to assist their learning. Students of Years 3 and 5 are required to bring an iPad, a compatible keyboard, a protective case and headphones to school daily. The addition of a keyboard extends the functionality beyond the familiar touch screen and enables the iPad to be used for a greater number of educational learning tasks. The keyboard is essential for note taking and other more complex written work like story creation, and presentations.

Integrating Technology for students in Years 6 to 12.

During these grades, students engage in a BYOT program at school to assist their learning. This approach enables a variety of different software applications to be selected and used to suit student requirements and personal preferences. All Saints Grammar is focussed on providing a flexible educational learning solution using a range of software that are not device, hardware or operating system specific.

In **Years 7 to 12** the BYOT program requires a more powerful computing device other than a tablet or ipad. For this reason all students are required to bring their own laptop, or equivalent to school daily. In doing so, students can take advantage of the increased functionality offered by software applications and creative suites on these devices.

All Saints Grammar acknowledges that families may have already made decisions concerning the purchase of a technology device for use at home. We encourage and support these decisions and will attempt to support all suitable modern devices and make reasonable recommendations when and where difficulties arise. We consider modern devices will be running Windows 8 and above, Mac OSX 10.11 and above, the latest Apple IOS or the latest Android release. All devices connected to our networks are required to be running up to date anti-virus software.



All Saints Grammar aims to engage students in learning experiences and activities, enhanced by technology. The learning will challenge students to excel in the development of new skills, whilst instilling an enduring love for learning.

Choosing a device:

During your child's education lifetime, it is likely that they will use many devices and at some point in time a new device will be purchased. Below, we provide some basic information and recommendations to assist families when choosing a new digital device for their child to bring to school.



Before any specific device is selected, careful consideration should be given to the following factors:

- Battery Life

As a minimum, a full day of use without recharging is required from any device.

- Software

The choice of which software tools are required: Office, web browser, communication and a creative suite.

- Weight and Size

The weight of the device is crucial. Students who decide to carry heavy notebooks to school will struggle bringing them every day. The device screen size should be large enough to fit the content required at a sufficient level of detail to be useful. At least an 11 inch diagonal screen size is required.

Windows Ultrabooks (including Microsoft Surface) and Apple Macbook Airs are very light and offer the power of a full notebook (laptop). They utilise solid-state (SD Storage) memory that is incredibly fast (compared to a traditional hard drive), saves on power and increases their running time. In most cases a 13 inch screen is sufficient for work at school, saving on weight compared to the bigger models. A number of 11 inch models are also available and they offer additional benefits in terms of weight and portability. An Ultrabook, Microsoft Surface or Macbook Air would be an ideal technology device for students to use as a BYOT option at either the Primary or Secondary campuses.

All Saints Grammar has a technology partner program available to assist in the purchase of an Ultrabook, Microsoft Surface or Macbook Air device. Our supply partner can provide optional extras, an easy finance solution and /or a technology buyback option.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What about smart-phones?

A smart-phone has limitations which makes it unsuitable as a BYOT device.

2. What about the physical safety of the devices at school?

As with other equipment, individual students retain responsibility for their own property at school. Students must ensure their device has a protective case or covering. Parents are advised to make their own arrangements regarding insurance and cover for accidental damage. The School will not take responsibility for accidental damage to student property, nor do our insurance policies cover it.

3. How can I protect my child's device against theft?

All student devices should be labelled through engraving or other permanent markings (please clarify that this does not void the warranty before getting your device engraved). Most devices have an option for locating them. For example: an Apple iPad has a built-in service called "Find my iPad" that can help locate the device on a map if it is enabled before the device is lost.



4. Won't this make my child's schoolbag heavier?

It would be wise to consider weight and size when choosing a device with your child; iPads, and ultra-books are significantly lighter than full-size notebooks. We do recommend that the weight of the device is less than 2kg. We are reviewing some different approaches that will help us to keep the weight down, including moving to electronic textbooks in the future.

5. Will the students' use of the internet be monitored at school?

All student usage of the school's network and internet connection is logged and trackable. Parents need to be aware that if they provide their child with a device with direct 3G/4G (including mobile phone tethering) access, the school is unable to log and cannot monitor the student's usage.

6. Will students be able to recharge their device during the day?

Students will not be able to recharge their device at school. Power cords/chargers can be a Work Health and S hazard and they add extra weight to school bags. For this reason, battery life should be a priority when choosing a device. Students will need to cultivate the habit of charging their device overnight.

7. What policies and structures will guide the students' use of ICT?

Students will be expected to comply with the Acceptable Use of Technology policy, in which they will sign the student agreement. The Pastoral Care program will include yearly inductions at the commencement of each academic year and throughout the year.

8. Won't this lead to an increase of cyber-bullying and inappropriate behaviour?

A well designed educational program on responsible digital citizenship will be put in place to prevent this from happening. Our students need to learn how to conduct themselves in online interactions and behaviour.

9. What if my child doesn't bring their own technology? Will they be disadvantaged?

Starting in 2016, all students in Years 3-12 are required to bring their own technology to school. During the initial stages of this program the school will continue to make some provisions to ensure that no student is disadvantaged. In classes where specialist software is required (Visual Arts, Media, Computing etc), the School will continue to provide computers for student usage.

10. Will students just be staring at screens all day?

Teachers and students will use devices some of the time, however, they will **not** be suitable for every aspect of learning all the time. As a requirement, outlined in the Acceptable Use of Technology policy, devices will be switched off and out of sight at recess and lunch. Face to face interaction and physical activity are the priorities in these unstructured times.

11. My child struggles with organisation as it is; how will they manage electronic files and documents as well?

The School will help students to use their devices effectively. This will involve resources and lessons that equip students with a recommended set of practices for the storage and management of content. Students will be assisted to implement these recommended practices.

12. How do we know the students won't just be playing Angry Birds / Candy Crush and using Facebook in class?

Our Acceptable use of Technology policy outlines the manner in which devices will be expected to be used during the school day. Whilst integrating technology does provide the potential for distraction, all of us face the challenge of developing self-control in avoiding these distractions; this is a vital skill for the 21st century workplace. School and home both have a role to play in helping young people to self-regulate in these areas.



13. Didn't the government provide a lot of money for students to have computers?

The Federal Government's Digital Education Revolution program, initiated in 2008 and ended in 2012, was designed to ensure that all students in Year 9-12 had access to a computer. Different schools deployed these funds in different ways, purchasing desktop computers made available to all students. This program has worked successfully for us up to this point. As successive governments had discontinued this funding program, no further money for computers is expected.



14. Why doesn't the school provide computers for the students?

We consider it likely that students will exercise more care and responsibility in looking after their own property. If the school was to provide computers, parents would ultimately be paying for them through increased school fees. It also makes more sense for families to purchase technology that best suits their students' needs, circumstances and budgets.

15. What about students in Years PK-2?

The school has recently increased the number of resources in this section of the school to better integrate technology into the curriculum. Regular reviews will be conducted to determine if BYOT is appropriate for students in years PK – 2 in the future.

16. Are we getting rid of pen and paper?

No. Apart from anything else, the HSC credential still requires students to handwrite and the students will need to maintain and develop this skill with their final examinations in mind. In addition, there are some forms of learning and recording information that are better suited to pen and paper.

17. What about storage of work?

As part of the integrating technology initiative, student storage of files will be increasingly located on the cloud as well as the school's file servers. All students are encouraged to regularly backup their work.

18. Will my child require internet access at home?

It is highly recommended that internet access is available at home. While lots of the materials the students will need can be downloaded using the school's internet during school hours, there is an abundance of material that students will have access to at any time with internet access at home. By ensuring your home has internet access, students and parents will be able to engage with class content and materials, as well as feedback from teachers. Internet access will provide opportunities for students to be engaged in learning whenever they may need to and want to, potentially 24/7.

19. Can the school provide software and Apps for my child?

This is an area of massive recent change in the industry, as software companies change the way they sell and license their product particularly in the education market. More information will be sent home to answer this question in the near future.

20. Do you have answers to all the issues that will arise?

No! A change like this will have all sorts of unforeseen consequences. We anticipate needing to refine, review and reformulate many of our practices and policies as we move into this next chapter of learning and as we continuously reflect on our experience. In this process, we appreciate your understanding, support and patience.