Narangba State School iLearn Program

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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Learning/ Outcomes Questions:

Why was Year 4 and 5 selected for the pilot program for 2021?

We chose to pilot the iPad program with Year 4 and Year 5 for two reasons - the first being that these students will benefit from up to 2.5 years of the iPad program as it rolls out across the school from 2021. Online platforms are very well established in these year levels. The pilot program ensures that our network and current infrastructure is able to cope with the increased demand as the program evolves.

What will the Classroom Look Like?

Initially the students will be learning more about the iPad operating system:

- Using a range of apps
- Accessing the wireless network
- Managing their work – saving and storing
- Collaborating with others
- Creating and publishing their learning

They will also be learning about responsible care and use:

- Caring for the iPad and ensuring it is charged and ready to use each day
- Accessing the internet and apps in a responsible and timely manner

We see the classroom as a blended environment. 1 to 1 access to technology enables students and teachers to choose from a wider variety of tools at any given time. **Together decisions are made about the most effective way that students can craft their work and create, showcase and share their learning with others.** At different times this may include the use of books and pencils, posters and keynote presentations and iMovie opportunities– other tools we will discover together.

Our classrooms are more connected to students' lives and the digital world in which we live. Learning is becoming more student driven and personalised. 1 to 1 gives teachers the opportunity to plan experiences for their students to apply and broaden the skills and knowledge they have developed during the early years of primary school. Students have at

their fingertips access to one of the most effective learning tools to bring the real world into the classroom.

Will students continue to have access to computers and other technologies?

Yes, as a school we have an obligation that students are exposed to a variety of technologies and not just iPads.

Will homework need to be completed on the iPad?

There may be elements of online activities, and elements of written (sheet) work. This will depend on the learning activity and if the iPad is the best tool needed to complete the work. This will be at the teacher's discretion, but there will be consistency across the year levels in the approach.

This is new technology. Do our teachers know how to incorporate iPads into teaching the curriculum so that they are used effectively?

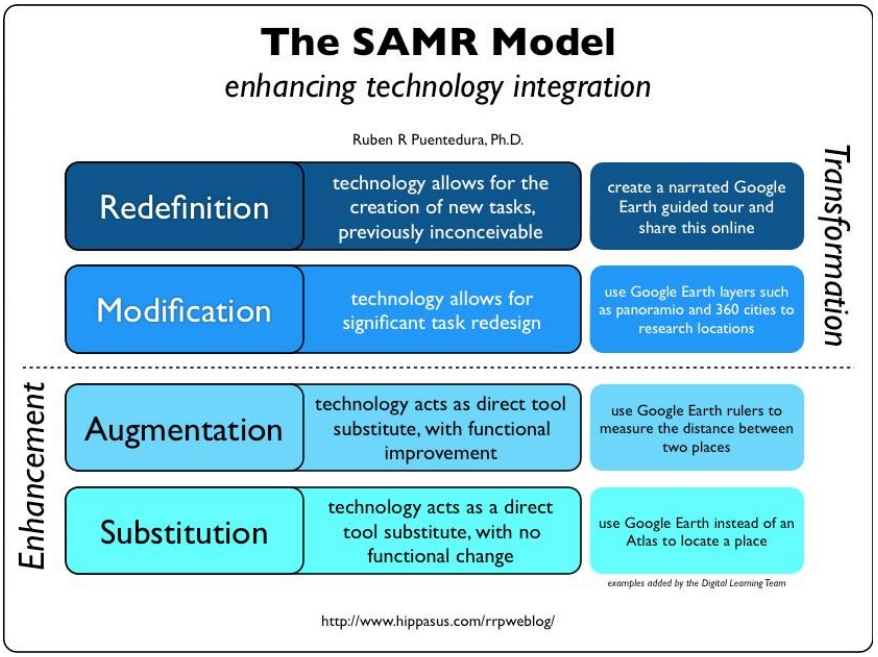
Staff at Narangba State School have been using and integrating a range of technologies for many years to improve their knowledge and skills, pedagogy, differentiation and deep content connections. The staff will continue to be supported through our Professional Learning Community, ongoing Professional Development, and sharing of best practice and latest research.

How much of the day will the iPads be used? Will the students still be using pencil and paper as well as handwriting?

An iPad will be used in class when a teacher gives instructions for its use. Using technology will not be done for the sake of it, it will be accessed when it is thought to be the best tool for the situation. There will be some lessons/blocks of the day, or even whole days, when technology is not needed, or not thought to have any benefit for learning.

Alternatively, there will be some days, where using technology may happen in every lesson. There will not be a fixed amount of time for using technology, it is a tool that students shall have with them in the classroom, to use when it is appropriate.

We still see a need for students to use pencil and paper and to practise handwriting. The staff at Narangba is influenced by the SAMR model (see below) to develop teaching and learning experiences for students that are authentic, meaningful, and match the skills needed to live in the 21st century.



Financial Questions:

Will I be expected to purchase a new iPad, and do I have to purchase from a particular store?

No, you can choose to use an iPad that you already own, or purchase a new or used iPad. You may visit any store of your choice to make purchases. The iPad will need to meet the minimum specifications outlined in this document in order to support the apps your child will be using at school.

Can I buy a second-hand iPad? What do I need to be aware of?

Yes. Every iPad has a serial number, and with this number Apple track the date and place of purchase, length of any remaining warranty, and whether it has been reported as stolen.

Before buying a used iPad, it may be worthwhile noting the serial number and contacting Apple Care.

Ongoing Cost Questions:

What will the longevity of the iPad be? When will I need to replace this technology?

Generally, an iPad has a life span of 4+ years before needing to be replaced or upgraded. Although, when treated well, the device will continue to operate well past this timeframe.

Should we purchase a screen protector?

We strongly advise you to purchase a tempered glass screen protector to help protect the iPad glass screen from damage.

Is a separate keyboard required?

A separate keyboard is required.

Are we required to purchase a stylus pen?

No, this is optional, and only if needed by your child.

Technical Questions:

Why only iPads and no other mobile devices or laptops?

In a primary school context, having all children in the classroom using the same technology will ensure class time is used productively, and provide the best learning outcomes for each child. Using one type of device also allows the school to provide a better level of technical support for both parents and students. In 2019/2020 after investigating the options available on the market, the school and P&C found that the iPad best suited our teaching and learning needs.

Will the iPads be managed at home or at school e.g. loading apps, updating the device?

Parents and students will be responsible for overall maintenance of the device at home, however, limited technical support is available from school if the need arises.

Will my child need a Bluetooth/iPad cabled keyboard?

The onscreen keyboard reduces the screen size. Therefore, a keyboard is essential, but the type of keyboard is at the discretion of the parents.

Can my child bring a 3G/4G enabled iPad without the SIM card?

We strongly discourage this. We do not allow external controlled internet access.

The Queensland Department of Education operates a best-practice web filtering system to protect schools from malicious web activity, and inappropriate websites. The departments web filtering does not continue to operate when the device is at home connecting to your home

wireless network. It is imperative that web filtering is no substitute for parental supervision when at home. While the department continually enhances its systems to ensure the safety of students and staff when using the school's network, departmental control is no substitute for the ongoing vigilance of parents and caregivers.

For more information about Cyber Safety and 'Positive and Responsible Technology Use', click here.

Who is responsible for charging the device?

It is the child's responsibility to bring the iPad to school fully-charged each day.

Is my child required to know our family Apple ID and password?

No. You can set up a child Apple ID (see guides on our website).

Our family doesn't use Apple products at home. Can my child access versions of the apps and other platforms from other devices in our home?

Some apps may be available on other platforms (e.g. Android) but this is if the app developer makes this available. The apps we recommend will be ones that will be used from the iPad app platform.

I can't remember the passcode that is set on the iPad and it is locked. How do I unlock it?

Information about password restore can be found on the Apple website.

Student and Family Wellbeing Issues:

I feel like my children know more than me about the use of technology. What can you do to support us as parents?

We can offer a range of support to our families including face-to-face workshops throughout the year.

Additionally, there are many blogs and Government websites (eSafety and Common Sense Media) that provide information about topics such as, technology use for learning, technology use in the home environment, and information on setting up devices so that your children are internet safe.

How will you ensure that students are not accessing inappropriate material on the iPads?

All students are bound by the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students and the ICT Access Agreement and Consent Form, including the third party and internet web services agreement, which are signed during your child's enrolment at Narangba State School.

I am concerned about my child's screen time. What will the school do to promote students' health, wellbeing, and a balanced use of technology both at school and home?

At school:

Health and wellbeing of students was considered in detail in the preparation of our iLearn plan. Teachers will not be using iPads in every lesson, nor the entire day.

At home:

Being aware of 'screen time limits' is about making sure children enjoy lots of healthy and fun activities, both with and without screens. Such limits mean looking at the time your child spends on screens and making sure it doesn't get in the way of sleep, and activities that are essential for their development.

Other resources for managing 'Screen Time':

- Forbes (2015) – The American Academy Of Paediatrics Just Changed Their Guidelines On Kids And Screen Time
- Raising Children Network

How can we promote cyber safety?

As the iPad program evolves over time, so will the need to explicitly teach our students about Digital Citizenship, Cybersafety and Cyber Bullying. Click on the links for more information about the eSmart Framework, Common Sense Media and CyberSmart.

The school will also provide ongoing practical strategies and information/updates through our school newsletter and website.

See some resources below.

common sense media

Does the school allow the use of iMessage on the personal iPads?

No.

When at school, iMessage is not appropriate for students to use. It is not needed as a learning tool, and we do not consider that these students need to interact in this online environment. The use of this program during learning time will constitute a behavioural breach of our expectations.

What is your policy around taking photos on the iPads?

It is important to be aware that some students and staff members are not prepared to have their photograph taken and that permission must always be sought first. Without consent, photographs should not be taken of any students or staff members.

How will inappropriate behaviour on the iPad technology be managed?

The use of the iPad in school is always at the teacher's discretion. If the teacher feels that a student has not been using the iPad responsibly they will be required to put the iPad away and may be issued with a consequence in accordance with the School's Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.

Theft/Loss/Damage Questions:

How will the risk of iPad damage be minimised?

There are several measures we are taking to minimise the risk of damage to the device.

- During the day, when not in use, the iPads will be stored in the classroom.
- Our minimum requirements include a protective case and screen protector to minimise the risk of damage if the device is dropped/in school bags when being transported to and from school.

Is there insurance if the iPad is damaged or broken whilst at school?

No. The school does not hold insurance cover. It is family responsibility to access insurance cover at their own discretion.

How could the risk of my child losing their iPad at school or in transit be minimised?

The iPad has "Find My Phone" inbuilt function, and with this turned on it is possible to find the whereabouts of the iPad when it is connected to the Internet.
For more information from Apple if your iPad becomes lost or stolen, click here.

Should we purchase a case and cover for the iPad, and if so, which one should we buy?

Yes.

An iPad case is a mandated requirement as outlined in the specifications. We recommend a waterproof cover, to protect the iPad in case of drink spillage in school bags. There are many competitively priced cases and covers on eBay or you can choose to purchase from a department store.

Who is responsible for insuring the device?

Because the iPad will belong to the family, it will be the family's responsibility to insure the iPad if it is lost or damaged. It is recommended that families consider including the iPad in their home contents insurance.

Apple Care Plus for iPad provides up to two years of expert telephone technical support and additional hardware coverage from Apple, including up to two incidents of accidental damage coverage, each subject to a service fee. This cover does not include lost or theft. More information about *Apple Care Plus* can be accessed at here.

Equity and Access Questions:

What will happen if there are students who do not bring along a device?

The school will offer shared school devices in the classroom. These devices will be pre booked by teachers, and accessed on a planned basis.

School owned devices will not be permitted to go home with any student.

What about parents who are keen to be involved, but cannot afford purchase of the device?

Please approach the Principal or Deputy Principal if genuine financial hardship is restricting your ability to provide your child with a device.

Trouble-shooting or Other Issues:

Who do I talk to if I have a technical problem?

The school employs an ICT technician to support technology across the school, including the BYO iPad program. Students will seek technical support through their classroom teacher. All warranty issues are to be addressed through individual suppliers. Parents are also encouraged to purchase Apple Care Plus.

Who do I talk to if there is a behavioural or cyber-security problem?

Your first point of contact will always be your child's classroom teacher. If the teacher then feels it is necessary, he/she will make contact with a member of the School Leadership Team (i.e. Principal/Deputy Principal).

What if my question hasn't been answered here?

Please ask your classroom teacher. We welcome input from parents, staff and students and will update the FAQ section as the Program evolves.

Should my child be on Social Media?

Parents can sometimes feel the pressure of pester power to allow their children on social media, even if they don't feel comfortable doing so.

While these services are a fun way to stay connected with others, there can be downsides like cyberbullying, risks to privacy and contact from strangers. If you allow your child to sign up to a social media service, consider these handy tips.

Get in the know

Research the 'terms of use' and age requirements on social media services and explain them to your child.

Keep it private

Show your child how to use privacy settings to control what others can see.

Play nice

Encourage your child to respect others online and to always think before posting.

Report

Show your child how to report inappropriate content, especially cyberbullying.

Beware of bad eggs

Teach your child that not everyone they meet online can be trusted, even if they seem nice or friendly.

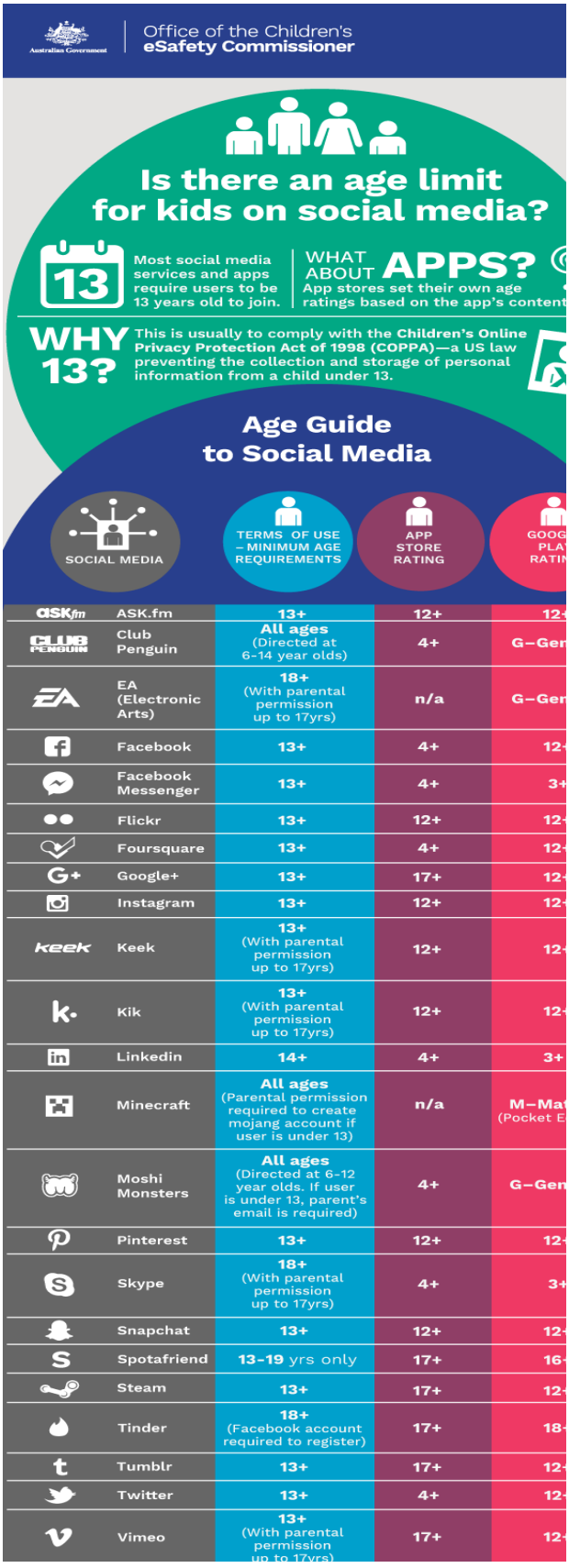
Learn more

Keep up to date with popular social media sites at: www.esafety.gov.au/quickguide

Talk

Maintain open communication with your child so they feel safe talking to you about any concerns.

Join in

Create an account yourself and find out what your child is likely to encounter.

iParent (Information directly from the Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner)