PMPS 1:1 BYO IPAD PROGRAM
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I need to provide an iPad for my child?
Yes—we believe that having full-time access to digital learning technologies is an increasingly important component for success in today’s digital learning environment. With greater access to real time learning resources and assistance from peers and teachers, students experience higher levels of motivation and engagement with their learning. 1:1 iPad access will allow our students to develop 21st century skills.

What kind of iPad can my child use?
The student’s iPad will need to be running the latest version of iOS and be at least a 16GB capacity for school use, however, a 32GB model is preferred. Families have the choice to purchase any model or version of the iPad. i.e can be full sized or mini. The minimum iPad requirement includes all iPads from iPad 2 and onwards.

My child already has an iPad, can they use that at school?
Yes, as long as it an iPad 2 or newer! Many students already have an iPad at home and we are happy for students to use their existing iPads. The one consideration for families who already have an iPad is that the student will need their own Apple ID for education purposes.

Can my child use my Apple ID to download apps?
It is not recommended that students use an existing Apple ID for a number of reasons. The biggest reason is that students need access to the password to enable them to download apps and books that may be needed in class. There are also ‘cloud’ issues with documents and photos being shared between devices linked to the same Apple ID.

How will the iPads be used at school?
At PMPS, the iPad or any other piece of technology are seen as learning tools. Students will use the devices to complete tasks that have been prepared and directed by their teachers. Students will not use their iPads while unsupervised nor will the iPads be used for ‘free time’.

Does my child need a 4G or wifi only model?
The school has a comprehensive wifi system that students connect to. Most families also have wifi internet at home, therefore, a wifi only model is adequate. If a 4G model is purchased, we ask that the Sim Card be removed prior to coming to school to ensure students only access content via the school’s network.
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Frequently Asked Questions - Continued

Why isn’t the school offering an iPad lease?
The school has spent a lot of time looking into a range of iPad lease options for families. All of the lease programs that were investigated ended up being either more expensive in the long run. Another major reason is that if students and families own their iPads, then the students are able to take them home everyday and have access to the learning resources that are shared in class. As the majority of our students move on to Albert Park College (who run their own very successful iPad program) students are then free to take their iPads with them once they move on to Year 7.

Will the students use the iPads all of the time?
No. Students will not use their iPads for every single task while at school. The iPad will be used as a learning tool along with other existing tools that are available at school. Teachers plan and deliver a range of lessons that require different tools, the iPad is just one of them.

Does the school have a recommended retailer?
Families are welcome to purchase iPads from any retailer (or bring their own iPads from home), however JB Hili Education offer an online Parent Portal to make the purchasing process easier. By accessing www.jbeducation.com.au/byod and entering the code PMPS2016 families can select from a range of recommended iPads, purchase a protective case, insurance and access flexible payment and delivery options.

What about safe Internet use?
PMPS utilises state of the art internet filtering to ensure your child is kept safe while at school. Teachers will assist students by providing ongoing and in-depth education and support on cyber safety. Later in the year the school will organise an additional parent information session to train parents in this crucial area. Students and parents will need to sign an appropriate use agreement prior to the 1:1 program starting.

Will the increased screen time put my child at risk from eye, neck and back issues?
We are currently researching best practice and producing user guidelines to address this issue. We want to ensure that students and teachers use devices appropriately and users are aware of correct posture and ways to manage their screen time. iPads won’t be used at school for long periods of time, rather as a tool that students access when needed. Any homework tasks involving iPads will be short and in line with our homework policy. Again, prior to the start of the program, we will be holding an information session to train parents on how to support their children in this area.

Won’t my child’s iPad break or be stolen?
It is an expectation that iPads come to school in a tough protective case and be taken into the classroom before the start of the school day where they will be stored in a lockable container when not in use. Our research from other school’s with 1:1 iPad programs tells us that broken screens are surprisingly rare and stolen iPads virtually unheard of. That being said, we recommend that devices are insured—many contents insurance policies will cover damage and loss outside of the home and those families purchasing through the JB Hili portal can add insurance prior to payment.