
Information for Parents



14 November 2016

Dear Parents

I'm writing regarding our ICT (Information and Communication Technology) plans for students moving into Year 5 and Year 6 classes next year.

Since 2014, we have been implementing an educational policy at SGS, where all Primary students in Year 5 and Year 6 are required to have their own iPad for use at school and with school work at home. Over these three years, results from this new initiative with the iPads have seen both students and staff reporting:

1. significantly higher levels of student engagement in class lessons
2. more relevant, immediate and flexible use of technology in lessons
3. greater opportunities for meaningful integration of ICT into all subjects to enhance student learning.

We are agreed that clearly the iPad is a valuable learning tool that complements our approach to learning and teaching, and students and staff have been excited about its learning possibilities.

What does this mean for current Year 4 students at SGS, and new students moving into Year 5 or Year 6 in 2017?

All Year 5-6 students will require an iPad with full AppleCare Warranty. This may be an iPad Air-128GB (recommended), or if available already, an iPad 2, iPad 3, or an iPad Mini.

To ensure all students moving into Years 5-6 have an iPad for the start of the 2017 academic year, there are two options available for parents:

1. Option 1 - Provide your own iPad for your child, including full two year AppleCare warranty cover; (plus device insurance, which is recommended. Please check with your Insurer if you can add the iPad to your Household Contents Policy.)

The School recommends a 128GB iPad, so that memory space is not a problem for students as they move through into their Secondary studies. We have been able to negotiate a very competitive deal with JB HiFi at Tamworth, where parents can order online with pick-up at the store. This is available through the following link: <https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod> Password for Parental Log-in: BYOD2017. Select the iPad programme.

The School is also recommending the purchase of a 'Wi-Fi' iPad to ensure all Internet traffic uses the Scone Grammar School Internet service, rather than a 'Wi-Fi + Cellular' (3G/4G) model that includes a direct Internet connection via a mobile broadband plan.

The School is very mindful of the significant financial sacrifices that many Scone Grammar School parents make and also the significant cost of purchasing an iPad. Informing families now of our continued move in this direction, we are hoping that many families may be able to use the Christmas season as a possibility for facilitating this purchase.

2. Option 2 - Purchase an iPad Air through the School's progressive payment plan, with repayments (\$160 / Month) spread across Monthly Statements from January - June 2017.

An Order Form for Option #2 is attached, for families to purchase the iPad Air with full two year AppleCare warranty cover, the School's recommended protective case and device insurance. **All orders must be placed by Monday, 28 November.** The iPads will be available for delivery, (possibly by Christmas), but certainly by Week One of Term One, 2017.

The School will provide a list of Apps required for students in Years 5 and 6. This will be an additional parental expense, but will be less than \$80 for the year.

The move to additional technological tools such as the iPad, is an exciting and significant step in equipping our students for living and learning in the 21st Century. It allows the technology to be authentically embedded in learning due to its mobility, ease of use and instant access through our Wi-Fi network, to a huge range of learning tools and applications. The device will be both a learning tool and a digital portfolio, providing parents with a much easier and clearer window into their child's learning.

The iPad will be used for a variety of learning activities including the following:

- research using the internet
- note-taking, planning and mind-mapping using iPad apps
- collaborating and reflecting using blogs, wikis, online discussions and other Web 2.0 tools
- creating audio and video presentations
- word processing
- taking photographs

As students move into Year 7 here at Scone Grammar School, the availability of their own personal iPad, and the confidence they have in using it as a learning tool, will be a significant advantage to their continued learning development and progress.

Information will be sent home regarding how to set up Apple IDs and the iPad for those able to do this, before School commences. At the Parent Information Evening early in 2017, Year 5 and Year 6 teachers will address specific issues related to the procedures involved in the student use of iPads across Stage 3 in 2017.

If required, further meetings or opportunities providing technical support, advice about iPad Air set up and usage, and use of apps will be scheduled, once all students have their iPads available.

Please contact me, or any of the Year 5 / Year 6 teachers here at the School, if you have any questions. We look forward to the students benefitting from this continued learning opportunity. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely



Graeme Feeney
Head of Primary / Deputy Principal

Stage 3 2017 - iPad Air Order Form - Option #2

- I would like to order one iPad Air for my child _____ , currently in Year _____ , through the SGS Year 5-6 iPad Air Progressive Payment Plan.

I understand that repayments (\$160 / month) for the iPad Air will be added to my Monthly School Fee Statements from January - June 2017 inclusive, and that the iPad Air will remain the property of the School, until all payments have been finalised.

I understand that Option #2 includes the full two year AppleCare warranty cover, the School's recommended protective case and device insurance as per the attached sheet. The Insurance excess is \$100 per device.

All orders must be placed by Monday, 28 November.

The iPads will be available for delivery by Week One of Term One, 2017.
(Parents will be contacted if delivery is available earlier.)

Name: _____
Parent / Guardian

Signed: _____

Date: _____ / _____ / 2016