



WeLearn@Palmwoods

Digital Innovation in Teaching and Learning

Parent Guide

The Palmwoods State School WeLearn iPad program is open for Year 1 to Year 6 students. Prep students will participate in a beginning phase of the program with school devices. We continue to *nurture passionate, resilient learners of the future* through:

- Improved access and educational achievement for all through connected, collaborative, creative and personalised teaching and learning.
- Enhanced connection between home and school by sharing the learning that is taking place in the classroom.
- Engaging every student in future focussed, digital learning opportunities through equitable access to devices and technology.

You're invited to join the Palmwoods State School iPad Student Resource Scheme, ensuring every student has equitable access to a device and ongoing ICT support. The cost per year is \$180.00 per student and the scheme offers a cost effective, value for money alternative to purchasing an iPad for your child to use at school. The device will remain at school.

To ensure equitable access to learning opportunities and curriculum requirements, Palmwoods State School students may either:

- Participate in the iPad Student Resource Scheme.
- OR
- Bring their own device (iPad) to school daily.

The Palmwoods State School ***BYO WeLearn iPad Program***:

- Strengthens links between home and school, giving parents the opportunity to see, every day, what their child is learning at school and have relevant, timely, accurate and quality conversations around student learning and progress;
- Enables personalisation of student learning through access to rich learning resources;
- Best facilitates the development of knowledge and skills necessary for the 21st century workforce, including digital-age literacy, innovative and creative thinking, collaboration, effective communication and high productivity;
- Allows continuous access to educational materials allowing learning efficiency to happen anywhere, anytime;
- Provides an engaging, interactive environment for learning;
- Allows students the opportunity to display prior knowledge of topics and thus be co-constructors of their own learning journey.



Advantages of students using the iPad:

- ✓ Access knowledge and information through the vast range of content and creation apps (many of which are free) to support student learning;
- ✓ Access a wealth of information on the Internet when they need it (using the speak ability via settings to read text for those students in the lower year levels or students with lower literacy levels than their peers) through wireless connectivity;
- ✓ Access rich media including digital stories, image and video;
- ✓ Increase productivity through quick loading of apps and quick response of the iPad and an operating system that is very reliable, ensuring maximum up-time;
- ✓ Utilise simple yet sophisticated text, audio and video-based communication facilities for collaboration with peers, teachers and experts in a local, national or global context;
- ✓ Personalise learning and provide work targeted at their correct level;
- ✓ Be highly engaged in their learning, both independently and collaboratively.
- ✓ Easily transport it to and from school and within the classroom

BYO iPad Program Supported Device Requirements

Apple iPad supported product - BYO

If you are purchasing an iPad, a new 2022 -2023 (Gen 9 or Gen 10) model Apple iPad, 64GB Wi-fi from your chosen retailer is recommended. It is your choice to purchase any extra warranties, however it is highly recommended. If you already have a device to send to school, the minimum standard is an iPad 5 (late 2017) or newer. It must be able to update to the latest Apple Operating System (IOS). You can confirm what model iPad you have by going to settings/general/about - it will tell your model or generation. The device needs to have a fully enclosed, shock proof, heavy duty protective cover and an attached Bluetooth keyboard is optional but highly recommended. It is also recommended to have a screen protector. We recommend a minimum of 32GB of storage, latest entry level iPads have 64gb. Keep in mind that any personal applications and content, placed on the device, may interfere with the storage requirements for school use and school required apps must take priority.

Apple devices meet the specifications for Education Queensland and will work quickly and easily on our network at school and for you at home (Internet access is via wireless). Network and platform maintenance costs to support the successful operation of the iPad devices at school will be covered by the school however hardware issues are the responsibility of parents. Visit the Apple website at www.apple.com.au for information about Apple warranty.

Charging the Device and Battery Maintenance - BYO

iPads brought to school will need to be fully charged. **The power supply will not be required to be brought to school.** The school will have a number of iPad power supplies to charge the iPad in the event of a battery being depleted. Leaving power supplies at home reduces the weight of the equipment student's transport to and from school and reduces likelihood of damage and/or loss.

The battery life of portable devices is improving as technological enhancements are made. To get the most out of the battery life of the iPads, follow these simple tips:

- Reduce the screen brightness to a comfortable level
- Lock the iPad screen when not in use
- Close all running apps when not in use
- At least once a week, drain the battery to 0% and fully recharge to 100%. This will aid the life of the battery.

Other Privately Owned Devices - BYO

Apple iPads are the only mobile device allowed to be brought to school as part of the **WeLearn iPad program** at Palmwoods SS. Palmwoods State School will not sanction any other privately owned devices connecting to the school network, other than the devices nominated in the **WeLearn iPad program supported devices** section. This exclusion includes all other private iPads, and mobile broadband devices. The policy has been enacted to prevent exposure of the school network to security risks.

Mobile Network (3G & 4G) Connectivity - BYO

Due to school-based policy, 3G and 4G compatible devices are not allowed into school. This includes mobile phones, mobile broadband devices and any other device with the capability of connecting to an external cellular network. (3G/4G compatible iPads are acceptable providing the SIM card has been removed) This policy has been made to ensure that our school network is not compromised and that students are not able to access any unfiltered internet connection or inappropriate content whilst at school. Unfortunately there is no way to block a cellular connection from iPads with this capability while the SIM card is installed.

Security, Insurance and Finance - BYO

While the BYO iPads will be securely stored during break times, parents are encouraged to seek personal insurance (or Apple Care via Apple). Check with your preferred insurance company (or even the iPad reseller) about your personal insurance at home and, to and from school, for your iPad. The school cannot enter into any finance or insurance arrangements with families for the iPads.

Damage in transit - BYO

All BYO iPads will require a protective case when being transported to and from school. This will be an additional cost but is well worth the outlay as it is the best form of insurance for iPads and will often protect the device from impacts and accidents. An additional sleeve to place the iPad in its cover is also recommended.

Damage at school – BYO and SRS

All devices are monitored by teachers at school by the Apple Classroom App and expectations are in place to prevent foreseeable problems and damage. However, from time to time, accidents may occur. If any damage to a device is through negligence of the school, the school will cover the cost of repair. If damage is caused to a BYO or SRS iPad by deliberate or careless actions of a student (owner or others), the costs of repair will be passed onto those involved and necessary behaviour consequences may apply. The decision around the responsibility for repair costs is at the discretion of the Principal. SRS iPad repairs will be arranged and managed by the school in order to ensure that device and repair warranties remain current.

Required apps - BYO

Each privately owned iPad in the BYO program will require necessary apps to be installed at the cost of the parent (most are FREE). The list of required apps can be found on the [WeLearn@palmwoods](http://www.palmwoods.eq.edu.au) page on our school website. Apps may be requested by the individual classroom teacher to support class learning or recommended to individual students to support individual students' specific learning needs. These will only be requested to certain year levels or students on an 'as needs' basis.

Please visit our school website - <http://www.palmwoodsss.eq.edu.au/> - for more detailed information. We look forward to an exciting year ahead with this program.

Kind Regards
Bec Hutton
Principal