



DIGITAL LEARNING AT WOODCROFT COLLEGE YEARS 3 TO 9

Frequently Asked Questions



CRICOS NO: 01645K

*Woodcroft College is vibrant, innovative and inclusive.
It seeks to provide an excellent all-round education
in a Christian environment.*



Digital Learning

At Woodcroft College we strongly believe that students deserve the best educational opportunities which digital learning can provide. This is why all students from Year 3 to Year 9 will be expected to bring their own iPad to school each day.

This booklet contains some frequently asked questions about digital learning at Woodcroft College which you may find interesting and helpful.

Tony Nixon-Smith
Head of ICT & e-Learning

Rachel McCall
Director of Quality Learning and Teaching





Frequently Asked Questions

Why digital learning?

Through digital learning students acquire and use twenty first century knowledge and skills.

They create films, soundtracks, draw graphs and images, read and annotate eBooks and eTextbooks.

They write notes, annotate PDF documents, carry out research and write essays, create media rich presentations, access the Internet, and conduct physical and virtual experiments.

They send and receive emails to and from staff and peers, access newsfeeds, record interviews, watch educational videos, listen to podcasts, submit assessment pieces, conduct fieldwork and create or answer instant quizzes.

They communicate and collaborate using a variety of media at school and across the globe.

Why iPads in Years 3 - 9?

The iPad is portable, lightweight, durable and reliable.

It is a mobile and flexible learning tool, with sound, text, image and touch. It is easy to start up, quick to use, and has 10 hours' battery life.

It allows for the personalisation of content, provides real-time access to information, and facilitates collaborative learning.

Who needs an iPad?

All students from Years 3 to 9 will be required to bring their own iPad to school. Lessons for these year groups will be developed with the expectation that students have their own iPad ready to work with when required.

Reception to Year 2 students will have access to school-owned devices. Years 10 to 12 students should refer to the Senior School Digital Learning Information Sheet.

Would a laptop or another tablet do?

Teachers will be creating course content for iPads. To ensure that all students receive the same educational experience and equal access to the content, the device must be an iPad.

Which iPad then?

The College recommends the most current 10.2 inch iPad with Wi-Fi only and 128Gb of storage. There are Pro versions of the iPad available (11 and 12.9 inch) but this is not a requirement of the College. An iPad keyboard and protective case are also recommended.



If you already have an older model iPad, you may wish your child to use it. However, it may be slower and may not run the latest version software or applications (apps).

**Please note: The greater the memory capacity, the better the speed and longevity of the device.*

Will an iPad mini do?

Yes, although, of course, the screen is smaller.

Will students and parents, receive any training on how to use the iPads?

Students will receive both initial and ongoing subject-specific training.

The College will also run a number of parent information/education sessions.

Does my child need his or her own Apple account?

Students will need their own Apple account to install apps and to access iCloud services.

We recommend that they create a new Apple ID, without attaching credit card details. Using iTunes cards and gift certificates is preferable.

We recommend you explore Apple's Family Sharing option.

Who's responsible for the iPad?

The students are responsible for the security of their own iPad.

We recommend that parents insure the iPad (*this may be possible through your Home and Contents Policy.*) A protective cover is highly recommended. We will work to educate students on how best to store and look after their iPads.

Who maintains and updates the iPad hardware and software?

Because the iPad is a personal device, the student is responsible for its maintenance and upkeep.

While on campus, all students have free access to the College's wireless network.

Will I have to pay for apps from the Apple App Store?

The College will supply Microsoft Office 365 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote and OneDrive) for use on the iPad.

Families will also be able to install this suite on up to five devices at home at no extra cost.

Students will need some additional core apps, many of which are free.

Can my child put his or her own apps on the device?

The iPad is an educational tool.

It should not be used for games and social media, or for storing large amounts of music, video or photographs.

Parents can control this by using Restrictions in the iPad Settings.

Will my son/daughter's Internet use be monitored at school?

The College has its own filters, and all web traffic is constantly logged.

How can I ensure my child doesn't access inappropriate material at home?

Since the introduction of iOS7, you can filter Adult Content by using Restrictions in the iPad Settings.

Will my child's numeracy, literacy and handwriting suffer?

Students will still be taught numeracy, literacy and all the other requirements of the curriculum.

They will still need to write for many class activities and some summative assessments.

Will the iPad be used every lesson?

The iPad is a teaching and learning tool. It will be used, along with more traditional teaching methods, to add value to the learning experience of students.

What about too much screen time?

Students are always encouraged to strike a balance between work and leisure.

What about textbooks?

The College aims to reduce significantly the requirement for 'traditional' textbooks where possible.

What about school desktop computers?

The College will maintain its nine dedicated IT suites for more demanding computer tasks e.g. specialist IT lessons.

What about the computer at home?

Students may feel more comfortable completing some assignments on a desktop, especially where the extensive use of a keyboard is involved.

Do I need Wi-Fi at home?

The iPad has sufficient memory to store textbooks and other materials required for homework.



Therefore, it is not essential, to have wireless Internet access at home.

However, a Wi-Fi connection at home will enable your child to use his /her iPad for Internet research, access content stored in the Cloud, and email teachers for support.

What about backing up/syncing the iPad?

With the current iPad operating system, syncing the iPad is accomplished automatically through Apple's iCloud service (up to 5GB free).

We recommend that your child sync/back up the iPad regularly by connecting it to a laptop or desktop computer and using the iTunes software (a free download).

Documents that your child produce on the iPad, using Office 365 and saved to OneDrive, will automatically be backed up to Microsoft's cloud storage system.

What about cyber-bullying?

Students sign an agreement covering the correct use of devices.

The school already has in place policies to deal with reported instances of cyber-bullying.

What about printing?

For many of the iPad's operations, printing will not be required.

One of the benefits of using the iPad is that it will reduce the amount of paperwork your child has to carry.

Where printing is required, students will be able to access the College network printers using a dedicated app.

What about the cost?

The College has reduced significantly, and aims to eventually eliminate, the conventional booklist.

The College has partnered with "The School Locker" to offer preferential pricing for Woodcroft families. For more information, parents should visit: theschoollocker.com.au/schools/woodcroft-college/technology

What if I cannot afford an iPad for my child/children?

We recommend you contact our Business Director if you have significant financial difficulties with purchasing an iPad for your child/children. The College will endeavour to support families on an individual, means-tested basis, where required.

Other questions?

You are welcome to contact the following key staff with a specific inquiry:

Information Technology inquiries
Tony Nixon-Smith
E: nixon-smith_t@woodcroft.sa.edu.au

Curriculum-based inquiries
Rachel McCall
E: mccall_r@woodcroft.sa.edu.au





WOODCROFT
COLLEGE

