

# GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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18 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

On 18 September the school held an information night to inform families about the BYOD program at Good Shepherd in 2024. An overview of the presentation can be found on the school website [BYOD page](#).

Good Shepherd's BYOD program continues to be successful as teachers and students embrace the opportunities that technology has to offer, such as:

- allowing students to prioritise visual learning eg. photograph teacher explanations, represent understanding;
- mobility eg. inside and outside the classroom, continue or reflect on learning at home;
- promoting creativity eg. students can express themselves in their preferred learning style;
- learning through trial and error eg. experiment with and alter work;
- constantly connecting and collaborating eg. shared documents, group tasks, real world access.

A range of resources and information have been compiled on the Good Shepherd Technology website to assist families with understanding technology integration at Good Shepherd: <https://gspstechnology.weebly.com/>

## Device Requirements

In 2024 all students are required to have an **iPad** device:

- Running current IOS (Apple operating system)
- At least 32 gigabytes of storage (to store multimodal work).
- Case protection (cases protecting the corners and screen increase protection, may have a keyboard).
- Insurance is optional and will be the responsibility of individual families. Families may wish to explore their Home Contents Insurance Policy to identify if the device could be covered.
- The school will supply headphones (over the ear, volume restricted).

Please use the information attached to install all the required apps on the iPad. This will enable your child to use the device as a tool in the lessons planned by the teaching team. App installation and maintenance is the responsibility of parents and students. Apple ID accounts have age restrictions of 13+ and should be controlled by parents. Therefore, students may only install apps at home.

There is an option to buy the iPad on the Good Shepherd BYOD Portal hosted by JB Hi-Fi at education prices. Please head to [www.ibeducation.com.au/byod](http://www.ibeducation.com.au/byod) and use the School code: GSCSBYOD

## Home Management

When the device is at home, its use is at the discretion of the family. Some tips to support use at home are:

- Designate specific areas in the home for use of technology tools to assist with supervision,
- Keep the iPad charger plugged into the wall in a main room,
- Set time limits for iPad use,
- It is only required for Home Learning requirements as per the school policy,
- No screen time in the hour before bed, set night shift for evening use,
- Set restrictions, such as guided access, if a problem continues.

Setting up a Home Plan, attached as a doc for your use, is an effective tool to clarify guidelines and agreement to avoid problems.

## Learning Management System

The application Google Classroom is currently used as our learning management system. It provides teachers and students with a way to connect, share content, access home learning, participate in discussions, manage assignments and receive class information. This platform allows flexibility across various technologies and enables students to make use of Google Education applications. If you would like to know more, visit:

<https://support.google.com/edu/classroom/answer/6020279?hl=en>

All students will participate in 'Device Boot Camp' at the beginning of 2024 to establish the expectations in the Student Agreement, explore digital citizenship, review cyber safety, develop research skills, and learn tips for capturing images and recording sound.

Throughout the BYOD journey we ask for family support to ensure the device comes to school each day charged and ready for use. Please make time to check your child's iPad on a regular basis and hold a conversation about online safety. Student's must not communicate using their school account outside of school hours, unless they have been asked to do so on Classroom.

Included with this letter is the BYOD Student and Parent acknowledgement to be completed after reading and discussing the Student Agreement. Please complete the form and return it at the commencement of your child's enrolment.

Best wishes,

Vanessa Ross  
Technology Coordinator

Attachments:

Student Agreement

Breaking the Student Agreement

Home Plan

Acknowledgement form