

2021 TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION



Students require technology literacy for the 21st Century and this is dependent on reliable and functional technology in the hands of both students and teachers. In 2018 Unity College commenced delivery of College Managed Technology devices to students entering Year 4 and 7. In 2021, Unity College will commence delivery of College Managed Technology devices to students entering Year 4, 7 and 10. This will result in all students Year 4-12 having a one to one access to a College Managed Device by 2023.

Brisbane Catholic Education (BCE) clearly advocates a College Managed Device program in preference to a BYOD model as the most equitable, reliable, long term affordable and sustainable solution guaranteeing device access to students.

Equity: All Unity College students will be able to access the full potential for learning with technology integration and equitable access to technology devices. Uniformity of the device offering creates an environment with improved capacity for student support, ease of device upgrading and reduced complexity in catering to embed technology in teaching.

Reliability: All students guaranteed reliable access to fully functional technology devices to support their learning goals.

Affordability: College Manage Device program cost is included in the College Learning Levies and does not require up front purchase or the burden of parent responsibility for managing device repairs, software updating and device replacement.

Sustainability: To ensure that the College Managed Device program provides a sustainable solution to balance affordability for families with equity and reliability for students.

A variety of technology options exist at Unity College and these are summarised in this information bulletin together with a rationale for each platform to deliver the ACARA curriculum.

Years P-3: College Managed iPad: iPads are utilised for students in early years whenever access to technology is required. At this stage there is not sufficient demand for daily technology usage as a learning tool to warrant the individual purchase of a device for each student. Currently, iPads are allocated to students on a 1:3 basis in Years P-2 and Year 3 students have access to a class device on a 1:1 basis.

Years 4-6: College Managed iPad: The College provides a 1:1 iPad as an important learning tool for this phase of learning. The iPad represents the best device in terms of portability, ease of use for learning, range of educational features, cost effective educational apps and device robustness for this stage of learning. This device will permit students to successfully engage with the learning demands of the Australian Curriculum.

Years 7-9: College Managed iPad: The College provides a 1:1 iPad with a keyboard and an electronic pen as the preferred learning tool for this phase of learning. The College fosters learning that is personalised and student-centred, just in time with 24/7 access to learning resources and developing the 21st Century skills of critical thinking, problem solving, communication and collaboration.

Years 10: College Managed Macbook: Macbooks are utilised for students in Year 10 to access technology. The Macbook represents the best device in terms of portability, ease of use and ease of learning the software, range of educational features, cost effective educational and device robustness for this stage of learning. This device will permit students to successfully engage with the learning demands of the Australian Curriculum.

Years 11-12 (2021-2022): Bring Your Own Device – BYOD

All students are required to have 1:1 access to a technology learning device to enable them to effectively participate in the educational program offered in this phase of learning. The College fosters personalised, student-centred, anytime, anywhere learning resources through ongoing access to learning resources. In the case of BYOD devices (Years 11 and 12 students 2021), to ensure that the type of technology utilised by students is compatible with the College's teaching environment and pedagogy, parents are encouraged to consider the following device requirements:

- Software/Apps installed such as:
 - ✓ Note taking e.g. Onenote (free app downloads)
 - ✓ PDF mark-up e.g. Preview or Adobe Reader (free downloads)
 - ✓ Word processing e.g. Word
 - ✓ Spreadsheet e.g. Excel
 - ✓ Presentation e.g. Powerpoint
 - ✓ Image editing e.g. iPhoto or Photo Gallery or Photoshop
 - ✓ Video editing e.g. iMovie or Movie Maker
 - ✓ Web browser e.g. Safari or Chrome or Firefox or Internet Explorer (free downloads)
 - ✓ Email functionality eg Outlook or Mail

- Online accounts provided through BCE licensing arrangements will provide cloud storage access and additional web tools setup by the College.
- Ability to use the device for each level of Bloom's taxonomy: Understanding, Applying, Analysing, Evaluating and Creating.
- WiFi capability to access the College's network.
- The device should be less than 2 years old and with battery capacity able to provide for a day's usage.
- For families who will be purchasing new technology, the Macbook is currently, the recommended device as the best value for money in terms of reliability, longevity and provides an unobtrusive learning curve. BCE have conducted extensive device evaluations and a summary of their recommendations is included with this information bulletin.

Damage to College Managed Devices

College Managed Devices will be routinely inspected, and parents will be charged the excess or the cost of damage that is not eligible for claiming against the College's Managed Device Insurance policy.

Accordingly, warranty issues will be managed with Apple and a replacement spare will be offered to your child to ensure a continuity of learning.

Opportunity to Purchase College Managed Devices

College Managed Devices are returned to the College at the end of Years 6 and 9, prior to the issuing of new devices in Years 7 and 10. Apple devices have considerable wholesale pricing which is built into the College Managed Device costing model and ensures sustainability of the program.

Graduating students MAY purchase their issued College Managed Device at the end of Year 12. The College requires all devices to be returned to remove proprietary software and College restrictions with no ongoing support. The nominal fee of \$200 will be charged to the Year 12 parent's College Statement of Fees and Levies to comply with GST obligations when selling the device to parents. Alternatively, parents can opt out of this program simply by the student returning the device at the end of Year 12.

Further information may be obtained through the ICLT Leader via email UnityIT@bne.catholic.edu.au.