



ABN 22 010 555 389

MACKAY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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eLearning Guidelines @ MCC

Network access for all students at Mackay Christian College is a priority, providing a valuable educational resource. Parents are asked to purchase and label earphones (not earbuds) with iPad connectivity for their student.

Students in Prep to Year 4 will be given access to classroom-based eDevices.

Students in Years 5 and 6 will be provided with an in-classroom iPad through the MCC iPad Program to enhance their learning experience. Mackay Christian College has made a strong commitment to the integration of ICT in classrooms. Parents/caregivers will be required to complete and sign an agreement with the college for their child to participate in this program.

Students in Years 7 will be allocated a full-sized iPad purchased through the college that has been pre-configured with the school management system and all required learning apps.

Approved Electronic Learning Device

Students in Years 8 to 12 are required to provide a full-sized iPad (9th generation), with a minimum of 32GB storage and Wi-Fi connectivity. iPads must not be more than three (3) years old. The iPad 'Pro' with Wi-Fi connectivity is acceptable, however it is more expensive to purchase. The iPad 'Mini' is not permitted as the screen size makes it unsuitable for learning. The use of cloud technologies provided by the college enables students to supplement an iPad with other devices at home if preferred. **Senior students in Years 11 and 12** have the option to bring their own laptop if preferred. Laptops must be Wi-Fi enabled and capable of running Microsoft 365 and Adobe Creative Cloud. Permission to use laptops must be requested and approved by the Head of Senior School, prior to connecting to the college's Wi-Fi.

Essential Apps

All students in Years 8 to 12 are required to install 'Essential Apps for Everyone' on their iPad prior to starting school. Students will also need to install year level or subject-specific apps which will be communicated by the teacher as required. Access to Microsoft 365 is free for enrolled students, using their college email and password.

iPad Specifications

The recommended requirements for an iPad to ensure compatibility, performance, and reliability for use at MCC in 2023 will be a full-sized iPad (9th Generation) with Wi-Fi connectivity and a minimum 32GB storage. iPads **must not** be more than three (3) years old. The iPad 'Mini' is not acceptable for school use. Parents can decide on the amount of storage required (64GB or 256GB).

iPad Support & Additional Warranty

We strongly recommend purchasing [AppleCarePlus](#) warranty with your iPad. This includes two (2) years of phone support from Apple rather than 30 days plus an additional 12 months' warranty (total of 2 years warranty) as well as cover for two instances of accidental damage (T&C apply).

Protecting your iPad

The college strongly recommends that the purchase of a robust iPad case to minimise potential damage. The [Griffin Survivor Case](#) or [Otterbox Defender](#) have both been proven to be highly effective at reducing damage to iPads used by students at MCC and other schools. The risk of accidental damage occurring is real and should be factored into consideration. The college accepts no responsibility for damage caused to students' iPads. We also strongly recommend that you insure your child's iPad and ensure that any damages are repaired by an authorised Apple provider which will not void the iPad's warranty. It is probably that your child's iPad will need to be replaced after three (3) school years.

Where to Purchase an iPad

iPads are available to purchase locally and online. As part of your purchasing decision, you may wish to consider whether local after-sales support is available. Standard Apple support requires the customer to call a support number, then send the iPad directly to Apple for repair, with an estimated turnaround time of 2-3 weeks. As well as inquiring about after-sales support at your store of choice, you may also wish to ask if they provide free training in the use of iPads. The college is unable to assist with iPad hardware faults, warranty claims or repairs, or loan units. However, our ICT department always endeavors to assist students with iPad software configuration issues where possible.

Online options include:

- The School Locker – theschoollocker.com.au/schools/mackay-christian-college

Local retailers include:

- Apple Premium Resellers (Specialists in Apple Sales and Service) eg Matilda Internet
- Department stores - Big W, Target, JB Hi-Fi, Harvey Norman, The Good Guys.

Advice for Parents/Caregivers

Students do not need games and entertainment apps for school. Allowing these apps on your child's iPad is a family decision. iPads are a tool to facilitate learning; that is their main purpose at MCC. Students can use their iPad for other purposes but they must be appropriate to the context, whether at school or home, and subject to permission. We support parent decisions about the setting of boundaries at home, as long as schoolwork can be completed.

Student Responsibilities

Students will be responsible for using their eDevice in accordance with the college's Network Acceptable Use Policy, the Code of Conduct and our CLEAR Technology expectations (see Network Student User Agreement at mcc.qld.edu.au). Students who fail to meet their responsibilities will be dealt with as per the college's [Student Behaviour Education Policy](#). Students may be instructed to delete apps if used inappropriately while at school and the student's iPad may be confiscated. Electronic learning tools are under teacher supervision from 8.30am to 3.00pm. If students in Years 7 to 12 regularly fail to bring their learning device to class, parents will be notified. As parents/caregivers, your support of the college's eLearning is greatly appreciated.