



Q: Will I be expected to purchase a brand-new device?



A: You have the option to use a device you already own or purchase a used one. Please refer to Gumdale’s recommended models and storage sizes for guidance. We've also established an online portal for our community through JB Hi-Fi. Our 2023 Portal will be released soon, offering competitive prices and finance-free periods. Visit the school website for details.

Alternatively, parents can participate in the school’s iPad Hire Scheme, which involves an annual fee covering iPad hire and app costs. The school manages these devices, which remain on school premises. For more information, please email ipadclasses@gumdaless.eq.edu.au.

Q: Why only allow Apple iPads and no other mobile devices or laptops?

A: We advocate for a consistent approach to maximise student outcomes and productivity. This includes providing technical support to parents and students, which is more effective when managing a single type of device.

Q: What if I can’t afford to buy an iPad?

A: You can opt in to our school’s iPad hire program for 2025. The iPad Hire Student Resource Scheme cost includes all year-level apps, iPad hire for the year, and a protective case. Costs vary between year levels depending on the apps and required equipment. Please see the pricing for 2025 below. If you are interested in hiring an iPad through the school, please send an email to iPadclasses@gumdaless.eq.edu.au.

Grade Level	Cost to hire for 2025
Prep	\$156.84
Year 1	\$157.84
Year 2	\$188.51
Year 3	\$190.17
Year 4	\$188.51
Year 5	\$188.51
Year 6	\$191.17

Please note that spaces in the iPad hire program are limited and subject to stock availability. iPads are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis upon submission of a signed iPad Hire PAF form and payment of the deposit, which secures your spot in the program.

Throughout the school year, there may be periods when the hire iPads are unavailable for student use due to app and software updates conducted by our school technician. These periods are scheduled at the discretion of the school, and we aim to minimize disruptions as much as possible.

In Term 4, Week 8, all school hire iPads will be recalled for resetting and deployment in preparation for the new school year.

Q: Will an older iPad be suitable for my child at school?

A: iPads must be capable of updating to the latest operating system (currently iOS 17). Older iPads that cannot update to iOS 17 may encounter issues with apps that require the latest system features. Please refer to Gumdale’s recommended iPad models below.

Device Name	Wi-Fi Model	Cellular (3G) Model	Storage Sizes
iPad 1 st – 6 th Generation iPad Mini iPad Air iPad 7 th Generation	NO These Models are no longer iOS updateable or not compatible with our school program requirements	NO	NA
iPad 8 th Generation	YES	NO	Please note if buying a brand-new iPad – the optimum model is an iPad 10th Generation or higher 64 GB or 256 GB device.
iPad 9 th Generation	YES	NO	
iPad 10 th Generation	YES	NO	
iPad Air 5 th Generation	YES	NP	

Q: How much of the day will the iPads be used? Will the students still be using pencil and paper as well as handwriting?

A: Yes, students will continue to use pencil and paper and practice handwriting. The amount of time students spend on their iPads each day will vary by year level, class, individual student, and even day-to-day. This variation reflects how effectively the iPad supports each student's learning.

Q: Will my child learn to type?

A: We use typing programs for students in Year 2 to 6. We recommend that students use a physical keyboard for this program. Students will receive a username and password.

Year 2 – 6 The benefits of a physical keyboard over the onscreen one.

While the on-screen keyboard is a good option for shorter sessions, a physical keyboard offers a level of speed, accuracy, and tactile feedback that an on-screen keyboard lacks. It also helps prepare students for high school and is a required item for students sitting NAPLAN.

When purchasing an iPad cover with an attached keyboard, we highly recommend choosing keyboards where the keys are not easily removed. For example:

- [Logitech K380 Multi-Device Bluetooth Keyboard](#)
- [Logitech Combo Touch for iPad](#)

Q: Will the iPads be managed at home or at school e.g. loading apps, updating the device?

A: iPads will be managed at home, though we can offer technical support at school if needed. All students are expected to have the required apps from their Year Level app list ready on the first day of school. Teachers will recommend apps beneficial for classroom learning and may communicate if additional apps are necessary throughout the school year. Most of these apps will be free. Parents may choose to install additional apps not mandated by the school, but these should be organized in separate folders labeled 'Home Apps'.

Q: How much money will I be expected to spend on apps? Where do I find the app list?

A: We are limiting the expenditure on apps to \$20-\$30, many of which will be used across concurrent year levels. Additional costs for iBook's and apps requested by teachers may arise during the year, but we aim to minimise these expenses. To further reduce costs for parents, we have also streamlined the class booklists.

App lists will be distributed along with booklists at the end of the school year and will be accessible on the school website. Additionally, Apple's 'Family Sharing' feature allows apps to be shared within a family, requiring only one purchase. For more details on 'Family Sharing', please visit our school website.

Q: Will my child be able to charge their iPad at school?

A: Generally, students should ensure their iPads are fully charged at the start of each day. By closing unnecessary apps and enabling power-saving settings, iPads can last the entire school day. In emergencies where a student's iPad battery is depleted, teachers may permit the use of a charger.

For students in the school's iPad hire scheme, iPads will be charged at school at the end of the day.

Q: How are the iPads stored during the day when they aren't being used?

A: Teachers provide secure storage for BYO iPads during the school day. If a student accidentally left their BYO iPad in the classroom at the end of the day, the teacher will secure it safely overnight and notify parents.



Q: How do I set up my child's iPad ready for school?

A: We have created a workflow to follow on how to set up your child's device. Please see our school website for more information about 'How to set up my child's device'.

Q: How are you intending to stop the student's playing games or watching videos or movies on their devices instead of doing the class activities?

A: As with all classroom activities and tasks, teachers will provide instruction and monitor student engagement to maximize learning. iPads will not be used to access movies or as gaming devices in the classroom; they are tools for learning, with each activity having a clear learning intention. Students will use iPads for information gathering, capturing learning, and demonstrating skills.

Q: What about internet and cyber safety?

A: Education Queensland maintains stringent filters on all school networks statewide. Teachers closely supervise computer and iPad usage in the classroom, guiding students on permissible internet access. Additionally, all students participate in annual cybersafety workshops.

Q: Do we need to purchase a cover for the iPad and if so, which one should we buy?

A: Yes, a fully enclosed, robust iPad cover is required for your child's device. We also recommend a glass screen protector to help protect the screen further. Year 2 – 6 students require access to a keyboard so we recommend you purchase a cover with an attached keyboard to the cover. We highly recommend Logitech iPad covers (see link below). If purchasing an iPad cover with an attached keyboard we highly recommend keyboards where the keys are not easily removed.



<https://www.logitech.com/en-au/product/slim-folio-ipad-keyboard-case>

You should also consider purchasing a waterproof sleeve or carry bag for your child device. There are many competitively priced cases and covers on eBay or you can choose to purchase from a local store. Please make sure you check the sizing of the sleeve or bag with the iPad size you have purchased to ensure it fits.



For Prep and Year 1 students, it's advisable for parents to choose a robust case that offers protection for both the front and back of the iPad. Many cases also include a built-in stand, promoting better posture when using the iPad at a desk.

Be sure to verify the model of your iPad before purchasing a case to ensure compatibility with the device.



case include

Q: Do you allow the use of iMessage on the iPads?

A: Students are not permitted to use iMessage on their iPads between 8:00am and 3:00pm. We request that the following applications—Messenger, Facebook, and iMessage—are restricted during school hours. This policy ensures the safety and effective management of our school environment, as we are unable to monitor messages sent or received through these apps. Any communication between home, school, and/or the community should be directed through our office at 3902 8333. The use of iMessage during school hours constitutes a violation of our rules and guidelines

Q: Is my child required to know our Apple ID and password?

A: No.

Q: How much homework should my child be doing on their iPad?

A: Homework can take the form of both digital and non-digital work. The amount of homework undertaken by students on their iPads will differ across the year levels. At the start of the year, teachers will inform parents of their expectations and the amount and type of work needed to be completed.

Q: Where do I go to get more information?

A: All information regarding the BYO iPad Program is on the school website. Alternatively, you can send an email to iPadclasses@gumdaless.eq.edu.au.

