St Peters
Lutheran College

St Peters BYOT

Program Overview | Year 6

2027

Our Enhanced BYOT Approach

In 2027, all students in Year 6 are required to bring an iPad to the College each day to support their learning. All students in Year 6 are required to bring an iPad to school each day. If families already own an iPad that meets the minimum specifications listed below, this device can be used. The iPad has been chosen as it builds on students' experience with iPads from the earlier Primary Years, while also giving learners access to a wide range of educational apps and creative tools.

St Peters operates an Enhanced BYOT model, where device requirements are tailored to suit different age groups. This means that while families provide the student's device, the College provides a range of network, security and educational protections around its use at school.
When students are connected to the College network, these currently include:

- **Firewall filtering** to block adult content, gaming websites and servers, streaming services, known VPN services, and other categories of content that may be inappropriate or distracting in an educational environment;
- **DNS filtering** using Cloudflare Family DNS, providing an additional layer of protection against known adult and malicious content;
- **SafeSearch** enforcement across major search engines to help reduce exposure to inappropriate search results;
- **Network monitoring** to identify unusual traffic patterns and repeated attempts to access blocked content; and
- Ongoing identification and **blocking of VPN services**, proxies, and other emerging methods used to circumvent College network protections.

These protections are continually reviewed and enhanced as technology changes.

However, no school network or device model can provide an absolute technical barrier to inappropriate online activity. Personal hotspots, mobile data and increasingly sophisticated VPN technologies can potentially circumvent school network protections regardless of whether a device is family-owned or College-owned.

For this reason, our approach continues to combine strong technical controls, clear expectations for student behaviour, digital citizenship education, and partnership with families.

Should you have specific concerns about your child's device usage or would like guidance on home-based filtering solutions, please contact the College via our byot@stpeters.qld.edu.au email address.

Selecting and purchasing the iPad and Accessories

The minimum specifications outlined below provide a guide for selecting a suitable iPad and accessories.

Minimum Specifications for 2027

iPad Requirements:

- Screen size - at least 9.7 inch (not an iPad Mini)
- Production date - 2023 or newer
- Models - The iPad, iPad Air or iPad Pro
- iOS 26 (iOS 27 recommended)
- Storage -128Gb as a minimum

Required iPad Accessories:

Your child will require headphones and a keyboard (preferably connected to iPad physically or via Bluetooth) that work with their iPad. This varies depending on your child's iPad model. They need to both connect at the same time. Further recommendations include:

- **iPad case** – a robust case with edge and impact protection and a screen cover
- **Bluetooth/USB-C Compatible Headphones** – volume-restricted over ear headphones are ideal as they limit the volume to a safe level which can be used for an extended period. Please note, these will remain at school for use in the classroom.
- **Keyboard** – Bluetooth or wired connection (via a Lightning or USB-C connector), may include a trackpad

Optional iPad Accessories:

- **Stylus/Apple Pencil** (compatible with relevant model)

Recommendations:

- Label or engrave equipment to ensure easy identification
- Investigate Accidental Damage Insurance (ADP) from the supplier
- Apple Care+ for iPad

Insurance

The College insurance policy does not cover BYOT and personal devices. We take no responsibility for accidental damage to, or loss of student property. It is essential for parents to make their own arrangements regarding insurance and cover for accidental damage, theft, or loss.

Apple ID (iTunes Accounts)

It is recommended that parents review Family Sharing and Apple ID information provided by Apple. Children under 13 cannot create an Apple ID on their own. However, a 'family organiser' can provide verified parental consent and create an Apple ID on the child's behalf in their family group. If your child has an Apple ID, you can add it to your family group and update their email address, date of birth, security questions, and more. Further details and instructions are available at www.support.apple.com.

Apps

Information regarding the initial set up of a student's iPad, including supported Apps, is provided through the BYO iPad Information page.

New parents and students will receive an email with links to resources and instructions on how to set up the iPad ready for the academic year. From time to time, additional apps may be required. Teachers will always give at least 24 hours' notice so you have time to download them. If your family uses Family Sharing, you can easily approve app requests remotely through notifications.

Parents are advised that some apps may require the students to set up an account. Apps such as Microsoft 365 are managed by the College and students will log in with their College email and password. Students will be supported with this at the commencement of their academic year and throughout the year as required.

Student Expectations

Students are expected to be ready to learn with their iPad by:

- Bringing their iPad charged and ready to use each day
- Taking care of the iPad and keeping it in its case/protective sleeve throughout the day to avoid physical damage
- Using their device as directed by teachers and within the appropriate areas and times as specified for Upper Primary students. These expectations are also outlined in the College Acceptable Use Policy.
- Managing their time, use and battery life of their iPad so that at the College it can be used productively for educational purposes
- Maintaining the currency of the software and apps to ensure the tools for their learning are ready
- Saving important files to their College OneDrive account and backing up to services such as iCloud or iTunes as required
- Securing their iPad in the classroom whilst at sport or during other activities which do not require the device, including at morning tea and lunch. Students are not permitted to use their iPads outside of class time unless with permission from a teacher.
- Using the device responsibly, appropriately, and respectfully in accordance with the *Acceptable Use of Technology Agreement*
- Keeping passwords private and protecting their device so it requires a login when not in use
- Using College WiFi only, no personal hotspots
- Seeking permission before photographing, videoing, or sharing online
- At all times being mindful of both their digital reputation and that of the College

Consequences for misuse will be applied in response to the student's behaviour and in accordance with Upper Primary behaviour management practices. These may include loss of internet privileges, restricted device use or other disciplinary action.

Recommendations for Parents / Guardians

You are encouraged to consider the following to ensure the smart, safe, and responsible use of the iPad at home:

- At home, the iPad and other devices should be used in an open area, where they can be visually monitored. Setting device-free zones and times is recommended, including no devices in bedrooms; device free meals; all screens off at least one hour before bedtime; device charging overnight in a location inaccessible to your child.
- Ensure a balance of screen time and off-screen time as appropriate for your child's age. Many authorities recommend that between the ages of 5-17 children have less than 2 hours of recreational screen time.
- Be involved and invite your child to regularly show you what they have been doing and the tools they have been using. Not only will this help you decide appropriateness, but it can also lead to conversations about your child's online use and it allows them to share their learning.
- Negotiate and agree upon boundaries for technology use. Respond with consequences if the device is not being used in an appropriate manner – some examples of consequences could be monitored use, restricted access or banning the use of the device at home for a period of time.

- Parents are encouraged to implement content filtering systems. This is most effective when undertaken in conjunction with open discussion, rather than covert monitoring. Suitable tools include parental control applications such as Qustodio, in combination with the in-built Apple Screen Time features. Further information is provided in the section below on managing restrictions.
- Internet content filtering is enabled while students are using the College network.

Parental Controls and iPad settings

Family Sharing

- Up to 6 accounts can be linked through Family Sharing options which can be used to track purchases and share content. Family Sharing makes it easy for family members to share Apps and other iTunes purchases without sharing accounts.
- One parent sets up as the organiser and they can invite another parent/guardian to help administer.
- Once your child is added, setting their account to "ask to buy", will require parent approval for purchases.

For more information see http://www.apple.com/au/icloud/family-sharing/.

Set up family sharing on ***your*** Apple device. You will need to set a Screen Time Passcode. Do not share this code with your child.

Ensure that ***your*** account (or another parent/ guardian) is a Family Organiser and that your child's age is specified.

Apple provides a guide for parental control set up at https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/child-safety/kmp239668ukx/web

Screen Time Schedules

For your child's device, you can set up Screen Time and create settings directly on their device or you can use Family Sharing to configure your child's device from your own iPhone or iPad.

This feature allows you to view detailed reports on usage and time spent on their iPad, as well as set limits for apps, content, and overall device use. It is strongly recommended that parents review all sections within Screen Time on their child's iPad and configure the settings as appropriate for their family.

- Turn on ScreenTime and set time schedules and allowances for your child's iPad use.
- Use Downtime to set when the iPad cannot be used. eg. during bedtime.
- Enable school hours to set restrictions for use of specific categories of apps within school days/hours. For example, pausing access to messages, games and access to other entertainment apps during school.

Content and Privacy Restrictions

Within Content and Privacy Restrictions, you can block or limit specific apps and features.

- There are default settings based on the age of your child.
- Content and apps can be blocked or allowed on their device. Where there is a choice of age or type of access level these should be set to protect your child from harmful and explicit content.
- If you set the "ask to browse" (applies to Safari) or "ask to buy" (applies to the App Store) you may need to respond to requests promptly to support access to learning content at school.

Communication Restrictions

You can set contacts to require approval for additional management of the use of the iPad for communication.

Monitoring activity

Regularly review your child's ScreenTime and device use the data to inform family discussions and modify settings as appropriate.

Messaging and Social Media

In December 2025, new Australian legislation came into effect to guide the responsible use of social media. This means that social media platforms deemed "age-restricted" will be required to take reasonable steps to prevent Australians under the age of 16 from creating or keeping an account.

- The use of social media is not permitted in the Primary Years. Parents are encouraged to review every app that their child requests, particularly thinking about privacy, safety and age restrictions.
- Messages is a standard iPad App that is inbuilt into the iPad operating system and is enabled through the Apple ID linked to the device. This is not managed by the College; Apple IDs are created and maintained by parents.
- To support student wellbeing and minimise classroom distractions, the use of messaging apps (e.g. WhatsApp, FB Messenger, Instagram, Messages) by Upper Primary students is not allowed whilst at the College. Parent contact with their child can be organised through Upper Primary Reception.
- To turn off iMessage, on the student's iPad, go to settings > apps > messages > make sure iMessage is turned off / not logged in. Changes can be prevented by selecting Screen Time > Content and Privacy Restrictions and set Accounts to Don't Allow.

Access to Gen AI sites (Advisory Statement)

- Typically, generative AI platforms set a minimum age requirement of 13 years.
- At St Peters, access to identified generative AI platforms is actively blocked on the SPLC Wi-Fi network for students in the Primary Years.
- The use of generative AI platforms will not be permitted unless parental permission has been obtained and the platform's terms of use have been reviewed and deemed appropriate.
- For guidance on restricting Apple Intelligence (AI), please refer to the section above on Content and Privacy Restrictions.

Other Recommended Settings

- Passcode can be set to be required for each app purchase to reduce the risk of excessive purchases. To access this, go to Settings > Touch ID and Passcode > Require Passcode Immediately.
- Touch ID and Passcode, can be set to disable Siri from a locked iPad – go to Allow Access When Locked and slide Siri to off.
- Payment information can also be removed from a device (Settings > Tap on your name (top left) > Payment and delivery > Payment methods > Edit > Remove all payment methods visible.

- The Focus option in Settings > Focus assists in the reduction of distractions. It is recommended that students set up a 'College' focus option that is scheduled for their academic day and turn off notifications from apps that are not related to their College work.

Use of devices outside of class time

- *iPads:* Students are not permitted to use their iPad while between classes.
- *Mobile Phones:* The College understands the convenience and peace of mind associated with Upper Primary students being able to carry a mobile phone with them to and from the College.

Students in Year 6 who do bring a mobile phone to the College are required to:

- *e*nsure that their mobile phone is locked in their lockers throughout the academic day

Technology and Wellbeing

The College adopts a range of approaches to ensure students, teachers, and the wider College community are equipped to embrace the potential of technology for learning, to contribute as responsible digital citizens, and to recognise and respond appropriately to online risks. St Peters students engage in a variety of learning activities designed to build their cyber-safety awareness, helping them to remain smart, safe, and responsible online.

The College filters access to the Internet, reducing the likelihood of students accidentally accessing undesirable sites. Use of the Internet via the College wireless network is logged whilst students are at the College. Parents are encouraged to monitor their child's use of their iPad and other devices whilst at home and to filter their home internet access.

The following Australian websites provide information and resources to assist in this endeavour:

- Tech and Wellbeing Firefly page stpeters.fireflycloud.net.au/tech-and-wellbeing (requires Firefly login)
- eSafety Commissioner www.esafety.gov.au
- Think U Know organisation www.thinkuknow.org.au
- Common Sense Media advice for parents www.commonsensemedia.org/advice-for-parents

Health and Safety When Using a Device

To support good ergonomic practice, students should keep the following in mind when using their device:

- Take regular rest breaks within the confines of the classroom and as directed by your teacher
- Avoid using the device for more than an hour without a rest break
- Use the device on a desk rather than on the lap or floor whenever possible
- Angle the screen to minimise the need to bend the neck. Use of a case/device with a stand and an external keyboard for tablets and iPads is recommended
- Work in an environment free from glare and adjust the tilt of your screen to avoid reflections from lights or windows
- Maintain good posture and avoid sitting for long periods of time
- Increase font size for comfortable viewing

- When using headphones keep your volume low or use volume-restricted (to 89dB) over-ear headphones
- Keep screen brightness at a level that does not require eye strain
- Adjust your device settings for brightness depending on your location and the lighting where you are working

Contacts

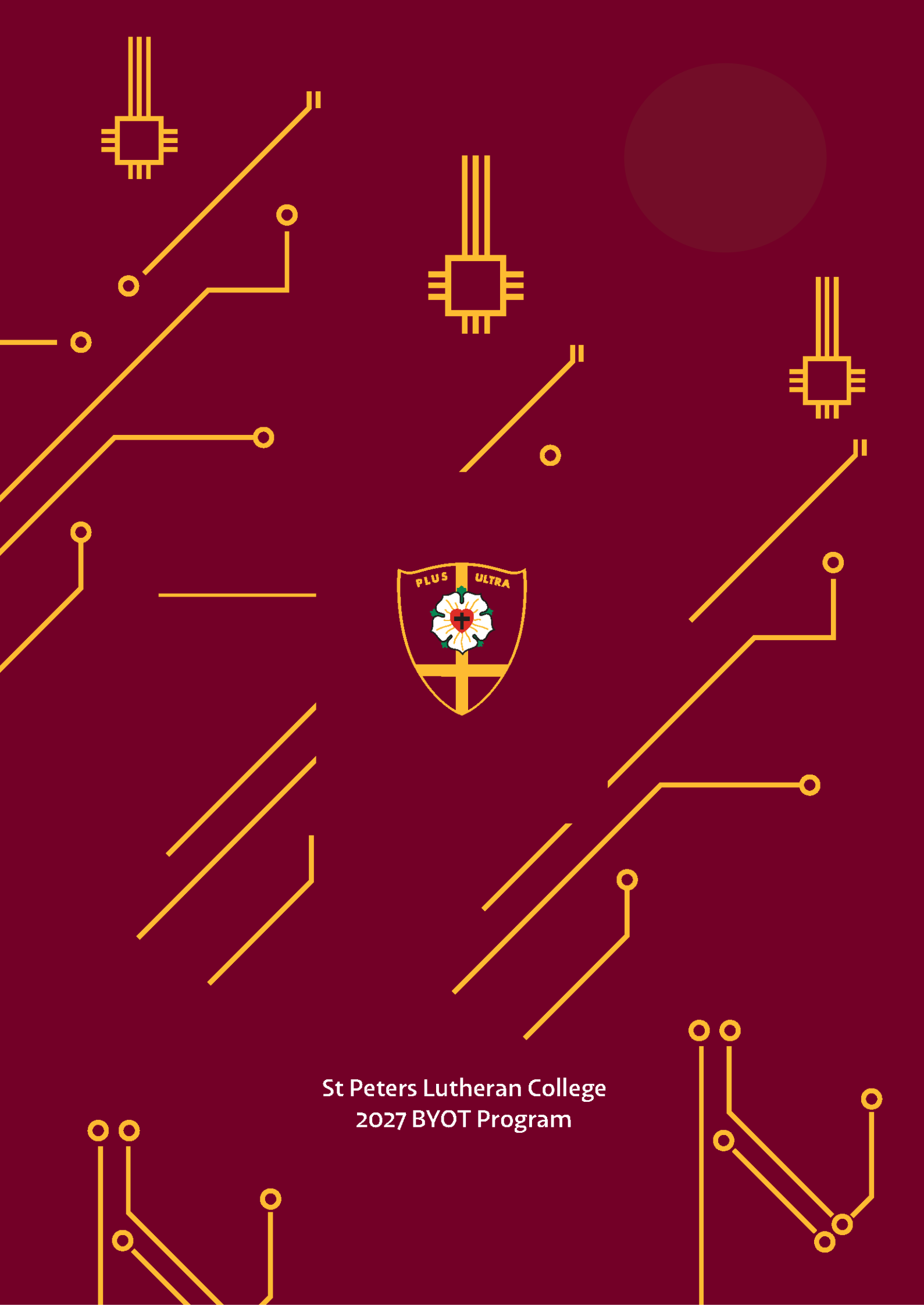
For queries regarding the BYOT program, please email byot@stpeters.qld.edu.au. More detailed information is available on the BYOT Information Page (http://stpeters.fireflycloud.net.au/byot).



Click to email a BYOT Query



Scan to view the BYOT Information Page



St Peters Lutheran College
2027 BYOT Program