17 November 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians

Learning Technology for 2017 Academic Year

The required learning technology device and links to the specific software (apps) is described in this letter. Following a survey to our College community on devices to support learning, the College Executive has endorsed a delay in any changes until 2018. We anticipate there will be changes in technology across the next year for further discussion. To give parents visibility over the changes for 2018 the most likely outcome and guidance will be students, Years 10-12, who will be asked to bring either a MacBook or iPad Pro from 2018 onwards as per their preference. Students from Year 7-9 will bring an iPad Pro.

**Required Device:**
Year 7 students will require an iPad Pro 128Gb 9.7-inch (wifi) as their essential learning technology – the 32Gb model may suffice but students will need to regularly move content to cloud storage. We recommend inclusion of a stylus and keyboard case. The minimum specification for current Year 8-12 students remains the iPad Air 2 64Gb, and the minimum recommended new device is the iPad Pro 32Gb Wifi. To identify your daughter’s model click [here](http://www.mercedes.wa.edu.au/index.php/student-life-a-learning/student-information-and-services/booklists-ipad-apps-and-digital-texts). Parents can purchase the iPad Pro as part of the Office Max booklist or separately.

**Required eBooks, Apps and iBooks:**
The College website will soon display the links to the online Booklist. Most eBooks will be accessed via the OfficeMax eBook app. Please refer to the College website for the required apps and iBooks for each year level. Please access this list and advise your daughter to ensure all apps are installed and ready to be used: [http://www.mercedes.wa.edu.au/index.php/student-life-a-learning/student-information-and-services/booklists-ipad-apps-and-digital-texts](http://www.mercedes.wa.edu.au/index.php/student-life-a-learning/student-information-and-services/booklists-ipad-apps-and-digital-texts). During the school year students may be required to purchase other apps. We recommend parents provide their daughter with a $25 iTunes card to cover the cost of these. From 2017 all students can install the Microsoft Office suite on up to 5 devices at home with their Office 365 College email address (value of $119 per annum). For more information [FAQs on the College website](http://www.mercedes.wa.edu.au/index.php/student-life-a-learning/student-information-and-services/booklists-ipad-apps-and-digital-texts).

Thank you for your ongoing support of the College’s “Always Learning Anywhere Initiative” to ensure we maintain its level of academic excellence and provides the very best learning environment for our young women as they move into a future that increasingly relies on the latest technological knowledge and digital literacy.

Yours sincerely

Liana Strutt
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