Information, Communications and Technology (ICT) for Year 7 Students

Our students live in a world where new technologies accelerate the pace of change, requiring increased global awareness and emphasising the need for interconnectedness. Thriving in this world will require the mastery of essential content-based skills and the ability to think critically and solve problems, communicate and collaborate with others, and be creative, innovative and entrepreneurial. The integration of technology into our curriculum and educational fundamentals including assessments and instructional practices provide authentic learning opportunities that reflect today’s world and prepare students to be creative, empathetic, curious and adaptable members of a dynamic and ever-changing world.

In 2015, Year 7 students will be participating in the College’s Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program which has previously been available for Years 8-11 students. Students will also have access to computer laboratories to access specialised software, as well as iPads and a range of other technological devices for learning through the Resource Centre. Teaching and learning in the College will continue operating on a dual PC and Mac platform and therefore models have been chosen from each as preferred devices for the BYOD program. These machines are small and portable, weighing around 2kg, that fit into a standard schoolbag. In addition to the hardware, students will have access to the latest technology, software and support to enable them the opportunity to enter a new world of curriculum possibilities, promoting engagement and involvement with their learning. Parents will have one of two choices to make regarding the provision of a device:

- If parents are purchasing a new device, the College would strongly advise one of the preferred models, bought through the College’s DataCom program
- If parents already have a recently purchased device which adheres to the College’s minimum specifications, then students may use this as their BYOD. The College requests that parents do not provide a device below the minimum specifications as this will limit the student’s access to the range of electronic resources and programs supplied by the College.

  Note: At this point in time, the College does not consider the iPad or similar Android model a suitable device for the BYOD program

All software will be provided and installed by the College regardless of whether parents buy a new device or utilise a recently purchased device, but peripherals such as laptop bag, warranty and insurance will only be included in the new device bundle. For further information on device purchase and the BYOD program, visit the Marist Portal/Parents section.

Students are to abide by the College’s ICT Device Agreement that outlines expectations for the safe and responsible use of technology. Backups of work are to be made as extensions will not be granted for computer or technology-related issues, as stated by the College’s Assessment Policy. Students are to store laptops securely in their lockers.

The College provides a range of online educational resources to support students with their online learning:

- JacPlus provides online textbooks and activities
- The Curriculum Portal provides subject specific course outlines, assessment task sheets and resources
- The Student Kiosk is also utilised for resources and educational activities
- The Resource Centre’s Assignment Help page provides students with the resources and assistance to get started on an assignment
The use of laptops in class is at teacher discretion to provide learning experiences that maximise student learning and educational outcomes. Laptops are viewed as tools to assist students to develop their 21st century skills of critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication as well as their ICT general capabilities in the Australian curriculum.