



Mitcham Girls
High School

ICT for Learning Program:

SRD (School Recommended Device)



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Rationale

Students use a range of technologies every day to enrich their lives and support their learning. They are used to accessing information immediately and from any location.

Technology is also changing teaching and learning; use of technology allows students to:

- Work collaboratively, sharing ideas and interacting with their peers, both at home and at school.
- Improve their research skills
- Become independent learners
- Access their curriculum, on line, twenty four hours a day.

Effective use of technology underpins curriculum development. Both the SACE and the Australian Curriculum require students to have highly developed independent learning skills, research skills and the ability to present their work using a range of media.

Personalised Learning, which addresses the needs of each child, is also gaining momentum. Efficient use of ICT, through the school's Learner Management System (Daymap), will support teachers to develop differentiated learning programs which may be accessed readily by students and eventually parents.

Recently, the school has invested heavily to upgrade the school infrastructure to provide a fast, efficient and reliable service for students.

The school, however, does not have the financial resources to replace computers as they become obsolete. Families are, therefore, encouraged to purchase one of the School Recommended Device (SRD) for students to use at school and at home.

To facilitate this process, the school has partnered *with Learning with Technologies* to offer you the opportunity to purchase one of three recommended devices through the Mitcham Girls High School website:

www.mitchamgirlshs.sa.edu.au

Advantages of Purchasing the School Recommended Device (SRD)

1. The SRD is purchased at very competitive educational prices and comes with a three year warranty
2. The SRDs have specifically been selected because they have a battery life which lasts a school day
3. The school has endeavored to purchase the latest devices possible
4. The SRD may be purchased and paid for immediately or over 24 months, interest free. However, if the latter option is chosen, there are some set up costs charged by the credit companies
5. For your convenience, the SRD may be purchased easily by using the link on the MGHS Website
6. The SRD will be imaged by the company, ready to use as soon as it is turned on for the first time at school
7. Students will have ready access to the school's network, printers and Internet
8. The SRD will come with the following software installed: Windows 8.1, MS Office 2010, VLC Media Player, Internet Browsers (Chrome and Firefox) and up to date virus protection. The software provided is covered by the Licensing Agreements the school has with DECD
9. Software Licensing Agreements include software updates
10. It is more efficient for students to use the SRD at school and at home
11. Students will have 24/7 access to our Learner Management System, Daymap. This means that students and parents will eventually have access to our curriculum, assessment plans and assessment tasks
12. Increased personalized learning to address the needs of individual students
13. Minor faults to the SRD will be managed by the school's technician
14. Learning with Technologies is responsible for all major faults. The school will manage this process
15. Turn- around time for faults is reduced because all repairs are done at school by Learning with Technologies.

Responsible Use of Technologies

The MGHS ICT for Learning Program is intended to be a partnership between the school, the family and the student. All parties expect students to use technology responsibly and in keeping with our Vision, Principles and Goals.

The school expects students to use all ICT devices in accordance with the school's Code of Conduct, for example they must ensure that they do not access inappropriate material or use the computer to harass or bully others.

At the beginning of the school year, parents and students will be required to sign the Code of Conduct and a Use Agreement indicating their acceptance of the terms and conditions set by the school.

The agreement covers a range of areas including:

1. Acceptable use
2. Cyber safety
3. Family responsibility
4. Non-school applications and files
5. Printing

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Will the SRD be configured by the company ready for use by our daughter?
Yes; the company who provides the SRD will deliver the SRD to you ready to use, however, the SRD must be turned on for the first time at Mitcham Girls High School.
2. Will there be an option to pay upfront or over a period of time?
Yes; families may pay upfront using PayPal or credit cards. There are also interest free terms available through the portal.
3. How long will the students be able to use the same SRD?
It is anticipated that the SRD will be appropriate for school use for a minimum of three years.
4. Will our daughter will be able to access the Internet through the SRD?
Yes; the SRD allows students to access the Internet, printer and the school's network.
5. Will our daughter be able to access personal email accounts?
Students are provided with a school email account which they can access from school and from home. Private email accounts may be blocked by DECD.
6. Will our daughter will be able to access the Internet wirelessly outside the school?
Yes; students will be able to search for other wireless networks and connect to them if access is allowed. This includes home Internet connections.
7. As the SRD belongs to the family, can it be used by us/our daughter to download other software, music, movies, etc.?
Yes; the SRD belongs to you and not the school. However, these downloads may be lost if the SRD requires re-imaging to fix any errors. You must ensure that any downloads do not infringe copyright. Good backup practices are also recommended.
8. Will our daughter be able to print while at school?
Yes; students with an SRD will have access to the network and its printers. Students may also print from any school owned device. Students who bring other devices will not be able to print directly from that device.

9. How will you know which SRD belongs to which student if they all look the same?
The company supplying the SRDs will provide the school with the names and serial numbers of the SRD for identification purposes. The computer belongs to you: you may want to engrave it or the students may want to personalise it in their own way (stickers, etc.).
10. What happens if my daughter's SRD needs repairing?
All SRDs have a 3 year warranty. MGHS ICT Help Desk will be able to assess the SRD. Minor faults to the SRD will be managed by the school's technician. Learning with Technologies is responsible for all major faults. The school will manage this process. We anticipate that all repairs will be done within three days.
11. What does my daughter use while her SRD is being repaired?
Students will have access to the current school's computers whenever the teacher deems necessary.
12. What happens if the SRD is damaged as a result of an accident, drop or loss?
You own the computer and not the school. The warranty does not cover accidental damage or loss. We strongly recommend that parents insure the SRD, either through an existing policy that will cover the SRD at home and school, or by taking out insurance at the time of purchase.
13. Can we get the software from the school if we do not purchase one of the recommended devices?
No; different computers have different configurations and the school cannot provide software images for non-recommended devices. The software provided is covered by the Licensing Agreements the school has with DECD specifically for the school recommended devices and the school owned computers.
14. What happens when my daughter leaves MGHS?
The computer belongs to you. Given that the software is covered by the school's Licensing Agreement with DECD, such software can only be used until the student leaves our school.
15. How much do the SRDs weigh?
The SRDs weigh less than 2 kilograms. The school is investigating the use of eBooks which, in future, will reduce the number of text books students need to take home.
16. What happens if the SRD is turned on for the first time at home?
Please do not turn the device at home for the first time. If you do, the SRD will not be able to be used at school without repairing the image.
17. We have recently purchased a computer for our daughter. Is she allowed to use it at school?
Yes; students may bring their own device, however they will not have access to the school's software, the school's network or the printers.
18. We may not be able to purchase a computer yet. Will my daughter have access to one of the school's computers?
Yes; students may have access to the devices we have at school at present. As these become obsolete we will not be in a position to repair or replace them. The school will maintain high end computers for subject specific needs. The school is committed to maintaining and upgrading the school's network and infrastructure to provide a fast and efficient service to the students.