

8th December 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian,

In Coláiste Bhríde digital learning is well established with all our students using iPads as a learning tool. When your son or daughter begins with us in August they too will embark on this digital journey.

Apple has recently made us aware of some important changes to iPad management in schools. These changes will impact how student iPads are managed. Going forward, Apple Educational Resellers, including our IT partner, Wriggle, will need to utilise more sophisticated device management methodologies. This will further enhance the benefits our 1:1 Mobile Learning Programme can offer to teaching and learning and allow us to comply with pending data protection legislation. It will also help to ensure the iPad is used for educational purposes only and this will include areas such as child internet protection.

Some of the advantages of this development include:

- 24 hour restriction of inappropriate web content
- Quicker setup of eBooks
- We can centrally control students' ability to download Apps, avoiding students accessing inappropriate apps
- ZuluDesk Device Management has a Parent App which will allow parents to control restrictions on the iPad

However, these changes mean that, from a technical perspective, devices that have not been purchased by an Apple Authorised Reseller cannot benefit from the new features outlined above. Coláiste Bhríde has always worked with parents to allow students to 'bring their own device' if they already had a suitable iPad, but going forward we will **not** be able to offer this option.

We are bringing this to your attention so that you might consider holding off on purchasing your child's iPad until the Wriggle online store opens in February/March 2017.

However, if you have already purchased an iPad, we are currently working on a plan as to how best to deploy and manage your child's iPad. Ideally it would be more advantageous for your child's iPad to be connected to the new management system provided by Apple but we are aware that some of you may already have an iPad.

At our meeting on 17th January for incoming 1st Year students and parents more details will be given about the 1:1 programme including a showcase of how iPads have enhanced teaching and learning in our school and details about the online store and purchasing. A representative from Wriggle will be in attendance.

Kind regards,

Linda Dunne
Principal