



*Saint  
Ignatius'  
College*

# Family Media Agreement

JUNIOR SCHOOL 2024

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## Parent Information

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Before creating a family contract about your child's college-required iPad, talk about how the device will be used at home. Use the suggested guidelines below to help make sure that you and your child have the same expectations. Then use the contract to outline your agreed-upon expectations (Pg. 3-5).

### Where, When & How Long

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- Decide where you're comfortable having your child use the device. What family space is appropriate to use the device, like a lounge room or kitchen? Can it be use it at the dinner table?
- Consider the difference between using a device for homework and using it for entertainment. Your child's device should predominantly be used for school work and should not be used by others (e.g. no siblings!).
- Talk about what it means to 'balance' time spent with technology, media and other activities. What are some steps your family can take to balance screen time with face-to-face time? Do you want to make the dinner table a device free zone, in which a family member (not even the adults) may use a mobile, tablet or computer? Do you want to set a curfew for when devices need to be shut off? Do you want to discuss a place outside of the bedroom where it will be charged at night?

***We strongly recommend digital devices remain in communal areas only for storage, charging and use around the home. Screen time restrictions are advised for overnight use, however we request that your child have full access to their device during school hours.***

### Checking In

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- Explain that as the parent or caregiver, part of your job is to guide them. Identify ways to maintain open, honest communication with your child about their iPad.
- Discuss how you will monitor the iPad. Do you want to check up on your child's activity? If so, how? Will you ask your child to give you access to emails? Will you review his search history (which can be deleted) from time to time?
- Talk with your child about the kinds of apps they will be using and accounts they'll have. Ask them to show you their favourites, as well as the ones they use the most. How do they work? What's so cool about them? How do these tools support their learning?

***Discuss agreed consequences with your child should they contravene this agreement in any way. Reduce or remove their privilege in using this device at home, whenever you feel it is warranted as their parent. Where this may be the case, we would still encourage the ongoing use of this device at school. Please feel free to communicate any concerns you may have with your child's use of this device around homework or other areas so we can best support you.***

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## Privacy Settings

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- Practice creating a strong password together. An apple passcode will need to be created. Have your child write down username(s) and password(s) but then keep them accessible to parents in a sealed envelope for emergencies. Ensure that if the password is changed that the emergency access details also updated.
- Your child must know their passcode. There are times when unlocking methods such as thumbprint ID will not allow access (e.g. after updating iOS).
- Review privacy policies and privacy settings together. Make sure your child understands what private and personal information companies may or may not be collecting. Decide how public or private an audience you are comfortable with when it comes to sharing and posting.
- Once your child's iPad has been set up to access the school network and Mobile Device Management (MDM) Platform at the beginning of Term 1, you are asked to place restrictions on the iPad. In 'Settings' go to 'Screen Time' and select appropriate access for your child in areas such as 'Downtime', 'App Limits' and block inappropriate content in 'Content & Privacy Restrictions'. Use a passcode for 'Screen Time' settings that your child does not know, that will allow you to apply safety and accessibility settings appropriate for the age of your child. Please keep in mind that restrictions should not limit your child's access to their device during a normal school day and many apps such as Google are recommended for age 17+.

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## Care and Maintenance

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- Discuss what you consider to be responsible care and maintenance of what are often expensive tools. Where will the device be stored and charged at home? Why is it important to treat the device gently and transport in your school bag?
- Outline the responsibility factor. Discuss what will happen and who is responsible if the device gets stolen, lost or broken - even by accident.

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## Communicating Responsibly Online

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- Talk about the difference between using the device to communicate with classmates for school-related work and using it for hanging out with friends. What are the schools guidelines for appropriate use (look carefully at the Junior School ICT Responsible Use policy)? How will you enforce similar expectations at home?
- Discuss your family rules for social networking and messaging – with people they know, sort of know or don't know at all. What does it mean to be respectful to and respected by others? What does that look like? Use this as a springboard for a discussion about cyberbullying, privacy and safety.
- VPN – It is expected that a VPN (Virtual Private Number) is not installed on your device. The use of a VPN's by students to bypass the College's filters and restrictions is contrary to the 'ICT Acceptable use Policy' and may expose students to a much greater online security threat.

**I will .....**

**stay safe.**

- ✓ I will not create accounts or give out any private information – such as my full name, date of birth, address, phone number, or photos – without my family’s permission.
- ✓ I will not share my passwords with anyone other than my family. I will ask my family to help me with privacy settings if I want to set up devices, accounts, or profiles.
- ✓ I will not use another person’s password or gain access to another person’s account
- ✓ I will not attempt to access sites, servers, accounts, another person’s files or any content that is not intended for my use
- ✓ If anyone makes me feel pressured or uncomfortable, or acts inappropriately toward me online, I’ll stop talking to that person and will tell a family member I trust about it.

**think first.**

- ✓ I will not bully, humiliate, or upset anyone online or with my phone – whether through sharing photos, videos, or screenshots, spreading rumours or gossip, or setting up fake profiles – and I will stand up to those who do.
- ✓ I know that whatever I share online can spread fast and far. I will not post anything online that could harm my reputation.
- ✓ I will ensure that my iPad is charged every night ready for use at school the following day.
- ✓ I will use the iPad in accordance with the Junior School’s ICT Responsible Use Policy.
- ✓ I will keep the cover on my iPad to protect it.
- ✓ I understand that nothing I do online is private

**stay balanced.**

- ✓ I know that not everything I read, hear, or see online is true. I will consider whether a source or author is credible.
- ✓ I will help my family set media time limits that make sense, and then follow them.
- ✓ I will be mindful of how much time I spend in front of screens, and I will continue to enjoy the other activities – and people – in my life.
- ✓ I will not use my iPad on public transport or on the way to/ from school – it will be kept in my school bag.
- ✓ I will only use the iPad in a shared family space (e.g. lounge room; kitchen).

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## Family Media Agreement - Contract

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**In exchange, my family agrees to .....**

- ✓ Monitor and review my online activity.
- ✓ Recognise that media is a big part of my life, even if they don't always understand why.
- ✓ Talk with me about what worries them and why, before saying "no".
- ✓ Talk to me about my interest and embrace my world, including helping me find media that's appropriate and fun.

This contract outlines my family's expectations for how I use my iPad at home. I will stick this up in a prominent place in my home. We agreed upon the following:

### **Where, When & How Long**

We talked about what it means to use the device appropriately and respectfully at home. We agree to:

### **Checking In**

We talked about how we, as a family will stay involved in how the device is used and what it's used for. We agree to:

### **Privacy Settings**

We talked about what kind of accounts I'll have and how I can best protect my private information. We agree to:

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## Care & Maintenance

We talked about what it means to take good care of my device at home, and what might happen if it's broken, stolen or lost. We agree to:

## Communicating Responsibly Online

We talked about the different ways I might communicate with other people using my device, and what safe, responsible, and respectful communication looks like. We agree to:

X

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Student Signature

X

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Parent or caregiver Signature