Question 1: What devices will the students be receiving?

Students from Years 4 to 6 will be receiving iPads.

Students from Years 7 to 9 will be receiving Lenovo ThinkPad Yoga 11e notebooks.

Students from Years 10 to 12 will be receiving Lenovo ThinkPad Yoga S1 notebooks.

As technology and teaching practices evolve we will review and may change these device types in subsequent years.

Question 2: How will the rollout of the devices occur?

Commencing in 2015, and then each year from then on, all Year 4 students will receive a new iPad and all Year 7’s and Year 10’s will receive a new notebook.

They will keep these devices for three years. The Year 4s will have their own iPad for three years (Years 4, 5 and 6) and will then be given a new notebook in Year 7. Students in Year 7 will have a notebook for three years (Years 7, 8 and 9) and will then receive a new notebook in Year 10.

Therefore, by the beginning of the third year (2017), all students from Years 4 – Year 12 will have their own device. At the end of the three years, the students will hand back their old device which will then be replaced by a new one, or in the case of Year 12s, at the completion of their schooling.

Further, when inspecting the current Middle School notebook stock, it was determined that there were not enough suitable notebooks to cater for the Year 6, Year 8 and Year 9 cohorts in 2015. Therefore, for 2015 only, all Year 8 students will also receive a new notebook. They will keep these for two years until they get a new notebook in Year 10.

In total, 520 new devices will be issued to students across these four year groups at the commencement of 2015. A further 380 new devices will be provided to students every year from then on.

Question 3: Why isn’t everyone from Years 4 – 12 getting a new device next year?

The cost of buying every student a new device is in excess of $1.3 million. The School is unable to purchase that many devices in one year. The cost for the 2015 rollout will be over $500,000. Each rollout after 2015 will cost the School approximately $400,000.

Question 4: What about the other students?

The School will be utilising its current fleet of iPads, plus providing more sets of iPads, so that our students in Reception to Year 3 and the Year 5 will have increased usage of devices than in the past. The aim is that by the beginning of 2017 there will be a ratio of one iPad to every two students (1:2) in Reception to Year 3, and a 1:1 ratio for students in Years 4 and 5.

Students in the Middle School who do not receive a new notebook in the first one or two years will have much greater access to the banks of notebooks that are currently being used. It is expected that a bank of 28 notebooks will be shared by two classes only, ensuring that the notebook to student ratio over the first two years will be:
Year 6: a 1:2 ratio for 2015/2016 and then a 1:1 ratio from then on
Year 7: a 1:1 ratio from 2015 onwards
Year 8: a 1:1 ratio from 2015 onwards
Year 9: a 1:1 ratio for 2015, but the devices will not be accessible for home use

Students in the Senior School who do not receive a new notebook in 2015 will have much greater access to the FIVE computer hubs spread throughout the Senior School during the rest of their time at Tyndale.

Question 5: Who will be paying for the cost of these new devices?

Over the next three years, the School will be purchasing these devices at a cost of over $1.3 million. These will be paid for through the School’s normal capital programme. In other words, the cost of paying for these devices will NOT be an added cost to your school fees. As you have already been advised, school fees are increasing by about 5.5% which is consistent with fee increases in the past.

Question 6: Will the students be able to take these devices home?

YES! While these devices will belong to the School, devices issued to students in Years 4, 7, 8 and 10 will be signed out by the students and therefore become their responsibility for the next three years. This means that they can take them home with them each day and over the weekends and during holiday periods.

Devices used by Year 9 students will not be accessible for home use.

Question 7: When will the devices be handed out next year?

A separate letter is being sent to all families whose students are receiving a new device next year. This letter details the device rollout process that will occur in late January/early February.

Question 8: Who owns the device?

Each device remains the property of the School. Each device is on loan to each student for the 3 year life of the device.

Question 9: What happens if the device is lost or damaged?

The rights and responsibilities in relation to the device are outlined in a Device Agreement which will be signed by parents before the device is issued. This will occur on one of the information nights.

The School will update this FAQ document as we receive further questions from the school community. Please also note that these updates will be available on our website at: http://tyndale.sa.edu.au/news-events/school-news?article=3918&path=home