



Citipointe Christian College
THE CHRISTIAN OUTREACH COLLEGE BRISBANE

19 March 2014

Dear Parents,

Earlier this year I wrote to you about the College's introduction of the Blackboard Learning Management System, which replaces C3B.net.

This letter informs you about our next step towards personalised 21st Century learning: we are calling it the Citipointe iPad Initiative. Note that we do not intend to rush its introduction.

We have trialled the use of iPads on a small scale to support, enthuse and extend students in their day-to-day learning. In order to utilise Blackboard's potential as a learning management system, in addition to accessing other online digital resources, students will eventually need a 1:1 device that is their own.

Our first information step is to make you aware of a preferred direction, based on success in the trial that was mentioned earlier. The precise device that a student uses for their learning may not matter all that much to the student. However, for the College to provide the network capability and the software that supports student learning, it matters a great deal.

We think the reliability and ease of use of an Apple iOS device will deliver what we are looking for, and at a lower cost to you than a laptop program. Eventually, over a three-year period beginning in 2015, Citipointe students from Years 4-12 will need their own iPad. We note that some students may already own an iPad which they may be able to use. Further details on a base specification of iPad supported by the College network will be provided shortly.

Why does a student need to own their own device? The College believes that the teaching and learning benefits of the iPad will provide a personalised educational environment of anywhere, anytime learning, which takes full advantage of the flexibility that Blackboard can provide, at school or at home.

Some of the benefits may include:

- an "always-on" mobile device,
- broader access to digital research materials,
- identifying specific apps for specific individual needs,
- self-directed / self-paced learning,
- enhanced student engagement,
- a wider range of methods for teachers to develop learning experiences, and
- the future possibility for e-textbooks replacing physical textbooks.

But please do not immediately go out and buy an iPad for your student. I will provide a further letter in Term 2 that will contain details about the initiative. As well, parents, especially of students in selected year levels for deployment in 2015, will have the opportunity to receive further and more detailed information on the Citipointe iPad Initiative at a parent information evening early in Term 3, 2014.

At this stage we want to provide parents with some basic information about the future direction of personalised digital learning at Citipointe.

Yours sincerely,

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Headmaster
For the College Executive and Staff