What does BYODD stand for?
Bring Your Own Designated Device (BYODD) refers to the school based approach to students bringing their own laptop to school as an essential education tool. Designated refers to the fact that the school determines the brand and model of laptop which students are required to use at school.

Why has St Patrick’s College moved to a BYODD model?
In the past the College has purchased the student devices with the support of Sydney Catholic Schools and parents have leased them back as part of the school fee structure. As the Digital Education Revolution funding has now concluded this model can no longer be sustained. As a result the College is moving to a (BYODD) approach in 2017.

Why does my Son / Daughter need a Laptop?
The integrated use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) is embedded in all NSW school syllabus documents. It is a mandated requirement in all subjects that students access ICT to assist their learning. There is also a requirement to develop ICT skills in each subject.

Where do I purchase my device?
Devices can be purchased from any certified Apple retailer of your choice, as long as the device meets the BYODD requirements for St Patrick’s College. An online purchasing portal will be provided from Sydney Catholic Schools, which represents preferred suppliers who offer some benefits to parents that may not be available from other retailers. It is up to parents to make their own decisions on where to purchase the BYODD device.

What if I don’t want to provide the designated device?
It is a condition of enrolment at St Patrick’s College, for parents and caregivers to provide their child with the device designated by the school.

Are students currently enrolled in Year 9 (2016) required to buy a new laptop as part of the BYODD model for Year 10 (2017)?
Yes. Students in Year 10, 2017 will require devices that must meet the required BYODD specifications. This means the Year 9 2016 laptops will have to be replaced as the AppleCare Protection Plan will have expired and therefore they will no longer meet the College BYODD required specifications.

Who loads software onto my child’s Macbook Air?
The College learning and teaching environment is CloudShare (Google Education Apps). The College will provide a list of software required on the student devices and will package some free software which will be available for installation from the College website in 2017. The installation of all paid software is the responsibility of parents and students.

What device has been designated by the College?
13 inch MacBook Air
The laptop must meet the following minimum specifications:
- 1.6GHZ Intel i5 Processor
- 8GB RAM
- Flash storage
  - 128GB for year 7
  - 256GB for Year 10
- 3 Year Applecare Protection Plan. (Please note, your AppleCare Protection Plan coverage starts from your laptop purchase date.)
Who is responsible for the repair process?
Parents and carers are responsible for the maintenance and repair of the device. College ICT staff will still be available to assist students with providing solutions to issues with the device and manage warranty repairs if required.

How does the repair process work at the College?
The three year onsite Apple Care Protection Plan allows the laptop to be repaired by the College ICT Support Staff. If a student requests a device repair to be facilitated through the College, they will be required to submit the device to College ICT staff with a parent/carer signed consent form (available from the College website and on request at the ICT Service Centre). The device will then be booked in with our service centre and if any payment is needed (eg. out of warranty repair, cracked screen, damage, etc.), the service centre will contact parents / carers directly. Once the repair is complete, the device will be returned to the student.

If my child’s device is being repaired what will they use? How long will they have access to the replacement?
When a device is out for repair, students will have access to a loan device for up to a maximum of two weeks at a time. At the conclusion of the two weeks, students must return the loan device to the College ICT Staff in the condition it is was borrowed in a timely manner.

Do I need to purchase a specific case?
St Patrick’s College recommends students use a hard sided laptop case for maximum laptop protection. The case purchased is left to the discretion of the parent / student. The school will not be providing or selling laptop cases.

Do I need to purchase a back up device?
St Patrick’s College recommends students purchase an external back up device (USB or external hard drive) to back up their school work. Some data will be stored online via Google Drive.

Should I insure my child’s BYODD?
The device should have an appropriate level of insurance cover. The purchase of this policy is the responsibility of families to organise.

Do we need to sign a User Agreement even though we have purchased the device?
Yes. An updated Sydney Catholic Schools’ ICT User Agreement Policy to be signed by students and parents will be provided at the beginning of the 2017 school year.

My child doesn’t know how to use a MacBook. How will the College support my child?
St Patrick’s College will conduct a Year 7 Orientation Program at the start of 2017 Week 1, Term 1. Students will spend the day learning the basics of how to use their new device and become familiar with the College network.

What if I am new to St Patrick’s College and NOT entering Year 7 or 10 in 2017?
The College requires each student to acquire the designated device if they are entering in Year 7 or if they require an upgrade device (eg. start of Year 10).