



# Lago Vista ISD Parent iPad Guide

## Thriving as a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Parent

The changing landscape of the world's information to digital form will require today's student to have a different set of skills than what was required just a decade ago. Future graduates must be equipped with not just core content knowledge, but also with 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills of problem solving, critical thinking, communication, and literacy in technology, media, and information. Students will need to be able to quickly find, synthesize, and communicate information. They will need the skills to collaborate with colleagues—not just in their own offices, but also within a global community of colleagues and customers.

Lago Vista ISD is committed to ensuring that students develop the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to responsibly navigate within the emerging and ever-changing digital ecosystem. To accomplish this while providing a dynamic educational experience for students, Lago Vista Independent School District is excited to offer a 1:1 (student to device) mobile learning environment using the Apple iPad Air 2. This student-managed 1:1 mobile learning program is for high school students and is part of Lago Vista ISD's NexGen Learning, a strategic learning initiative designed to equip our students with the crucial outcomes needed for success on whatever path they choose after graduation.

Let's face it - the world of teaching and learning is changing right before our eyes. Mobile technology increases access to information with the touch of a button. It also provides teachers and students with tools to increase efficiency and manage student learning. With an iPad in their hands, students have the power to create, collaborate, and communicate in ways unforeseen just a few years ago. What is most exciting is that the mobile learning devices give students access to learning anytime, anywhere – in classrooms, in the lunch room, and at home.

Advances in teaching and learning technology are tremendously exciting, but we recognize that they can also be a bit unsettling for parents - especially those who grew using textbooks, college-ruled paper, and listening to lectures while seated in rows. Just as our students are entering a new world of education, we understand that you are, as well. This guide will provide some useful tips and solutions to help you on your journey towards thriving as a 21<sup>st</sup> century parent.

## Tips for Raising a Responsible Digital Citizen

What makes a safe and productive digital citizen? This is an important parent-child discussion to have - and revisit frequently! The following suggestions are drawn from a wide variety of professional sources that may assist you with effectively guiding your child's use of the iPad and other technology devices. Remember: Parents are responsible for monitoring their student's use of their iPad and the Internet while at home. It is important to have discussions about individual family values and how to best remain true to those values, even in the digital world.

**Common Sense Media Agreement.** The Common Sense Family Media Agreement is a checklist that parents can use to guide conversations with their kids about media use. It's designed to help parents establish guidelines and expectations around media use and behaviors that are right for their family. Some families are comfortable using it as a signed agreement. Others refer to use it simply as a checklist to guide conversations. Either way, it's a great way to help parents and kids get on the same page about media and technology use. Visit <http://ow.ly/wWbJb>.

**Put the iPad to Bed.** Parenting experts suggest parking all technology devices, from cell phones to iPads, in a common family room overnight to discourage late night, unmonitored use and sleep disruption. Don't allow your teen to sleep with the iPad, laptop, or cell phone.

**Monitor & Limit Screen Time.** Experts suggest having teens access the Internet in a central place at home, such as the kitchen or family room, rather than away from adult supervision or behind a closed door. Know what your child is doing with technology and how his or her time is being spent. Technology can be a great tool and resource, but also has the potential to be a big distractor. Help your child learn to focus on completing tasks or assignments before spending time on games, shopping, and social networking.

**Filter Access.** Filtering software is not built in to the iPad. While many potential dangers are filtered and blocked on the school's wireless network, children often have complete, unrestricted access to inappropriate sites at home. We strongly suggest installing software to filter and block inappropriate content on your wireless home network. Some possible filters to consider include OpenDNS (free version available), SafeEyes, and NetNanny. Some of these products offer additional protection features such as cell phone filtering, text message and photo screening tools, and digital footprint/ reputation monitoring. *Lago Vista ISD offers parent classes on how to set up firewalls and to properly configure software meant to filter Internet access.*

**Set Expectations.** Regularly share your expectations with your child about accessing only appropriate sites and content, as well as your expectations for being a good person when online. Outside of school, it is likely that your child has already been confronted with multiple opportunities to access content that parents wouldn't approve of. Sites such as pornography and "hate" sites are obviously inappropriate. The appropriateness of other sites that have no academic value, such as celebrity gossip, reality TV, personal blogs, etc. is really dependent on individual family values.

Understand that your teen's use of many technologies (such as smart phone video game systems, and cell phones) likely gives him/her the ability to connect to unfiltered public wireless networks (such as in a library or coffee shop, by picking up a neighbor's wireless signal, or connecting to the Internet through a cell service). Therefore, it is important to maintain regular, open dialog about Internet use and access. Discuss your expectations for appropriate use and behavior....often!

## Student Device Profiles

In order to promote and support student success in the 1:1 environment, Lago Vista ISD has developed two device profiles for students at Lago Vista High School. The student's device profile determines the level of student-management permitted on the assigned device.

**The Academic Profile.** The Academic profile is designed to establish student iPads as an academic tool by limiting distractions while students develop the foundational digital citizenship skills to thrive in a 1:1 environment. The Academic profile accomplishes this by disabling FaceTime, iMessage, and the App Store. The Academic profile lays the foundation for teaching students how to effectively work in a technologically saturated environment.

All students in grades 10 -12 will be placed on the Academic profile for at least nine weeks. Students in 9<sup>th</sup> grade will remain in the Academic profile for the entire year. After being enrolled as a student for nine-weeks, students in grades 10-12 may apply for the Explorer profile.

**Access to the App Store on the Academic Profile.** Students are able to request apps in two ways. Firstly, students may request an app through their teacher. The teacher will make an assessment as to whether the app has academic merit for that class and subject and then forward that request to Technology. This method should be used if the app will academically benefit large populations of students. Secondly, students may also make a request for an app using a Google form that goes directly to Technology. This method should be used if the app will only benefit that student or a small population of students. Technology will then make an assessment as to whether the app has academic merit.

**The Explorer Profile.** The Explorer profile is designed to allow students, who have proven to be successful in a 1:1 environment, to explore the Apple's App Store ecosystem. The Explorer profile lifts the restrictions on the FaceTime and the App store. This allows students to explore the App Store ecosystem and help in the discovery of new apps to benefit the student body. The Explorer profile allows students more freedom and helps them develop the discipline and time management skills needed able to study and work in a technology saturated environment.

After being enrolled as a student for nine-weeks, students in grades 10th-12th may apply for the Explorer profile. To be managed with this profile, students must meet the following criteria:

- An 80% average or better in all classes for that student.
- No documented referrals for improper technology use during the preceding nine-weeks for that student.
- Principal approval for the application of that student.
- Parent approval with signatures for the application of that student.
- All teacher approvals with signatures for the application of that student.

Students who end the year on the Explorer profile will begin the next year on the Explorer profile. However, a student may be returned to the Academic profile if he/she fails to maintain the above criteria. Parents of students on the Explorer profile may request to have a student returned to the Academic profile.

**Access to App Store on the Explorer Profile.** Students are able to use their own Apple ID to download apps.

## Device Maintenance

Here are a few tips to help your student take excellent care of his/her District-issued iPad.

**iPad Care.** The iPad is an electronic device; handle it with care. Carefully transport your iPad to and from school every day. Be careful how you place your iPad in your backpack, many iPad screens are cracked while they are in a backpack. Never throw a book bag that contains an iPad. Never place an iPad in a bookbag that contains food, liquids, or heavy or sharp objects. Avoid placing weight on the iPad. Never throw or slide an iPad.

Never expose an iPad to long-term temperature extremes or direct sunlight. An automobile is not a good place to store an iPad!

**iPad Screen.** While the iPad screen is scratch resistant, it is not scratch proof. Avoid using any sharp object(s) on the iPad. The iPad screen is glass and is vulnerable to cracking. Never place heavy objects on top of the iPad and never drop your iPad. Careful placement in your backpack is of utmost importance to ensure its screens safety.

iPads do not respond well to liquids. Avoid applying liquids to the iPad. The iPad can be cleaned with a soft, slightly water-dampened, lint-free cloth. Avoid getting moisture in the openings. Do not use window cleaners, household cleaners, aerosol sprays, solvents, alcohol, ammonia, or abrasives to clean the iPad. Use of unapproved cleaners may remove the protective film covering the face of the iPad.

**iPad Case.** Your iPad comes with a District-issued case. The purpose of the case is to protect the iPad, especially while the iPad is being transported. When not in use, closing the case will protect the screen. The iPad must remain in the District-issued protective case at all times.

**iPad Battery.** The iPad should be charged, using the provided wall charger, and brought to school ready to use each day. Fully charged iPad batteries will typically last 12 – 15 hours of use. Waiting to charge the iPad until the charge is low (less than 20% life or red indicator light) will extend the battery life. It is the student's responsibility to charge the iPad at home and ensure it is ready for use in school each day. Failure to do so may result in the student's inability to participate in classroom learning activities.

**Damaged iPads.** Your student should report damage beyond normal wear and tear immediately. Most repairs will be completed during the summer months while the iPads are updated for the new school year. Damage that renders the iPad unusable will be completed during the school year. Replacement and/or repair fees may be assessed for lost or damaged items. The District offers Optional Accidental Damage & Theft coverage. For more information, please see the LVISD Student & Parent iPad Agreement.

**iPad Cameras & Microphone.** Please be aware that the iPad comes equipped with audio and video recording capabilities through a built-in microphone and front and rear- facing

cameras. All photographs and electronic recordings created with the device must comply with District policies and State and Federal laws. District policy prohibits the use of photograph and electronic recording devices in a manner that compromises the privacy interests of other individuals.

Use of the iPad and any other devices with audio and video-recording capabilities during instructional time is at the discretion of the teacher and the student must obtain prior approval to use the device for such purposes. Any electronic recordings obtained with the recording device are for instructional/educational purposes and individual use. Therefore, electronic recordings obtained with the iPad may not be shared, published or rebroadcasted for any reason by the student without permission. The District can and will monitor photos and videos taken with District-issued iPads, but we encourage parents to do the same.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Why are you doing this? How do iPads contribute to LVISD's mission?**

We think that the advent of the iPad and similar devices, combined with the increasing amount of content available on the web, is a seminal development in education and in our culture. Previous technologies were for the most part tools used to enhance existing educational methods at high cost and with a steep learning curve. The relatively low cost, ease of use, immersive interactivity, and connectivity of the iPad make it not merely a tool, but a learning and communications environment. This is a big deal. Over time, it has the potential to change the way education is done.

### **How will mobile devices change teaching and learning in Lago Vista ISD?**

There are many advantages including individual learning activities, e-book interactive materials, connectivity with peers and teachers, Internet access to unlimited educational resources, applications to specific learning activities, creative opportunities in every curricular areas, innovative ways to learn a language, music, art, and much more. In much the same way that families can now monitor grades online, the possibilities of communication and accessing information are limitless. Also, the paperless future is upon us, and an iPad is a very green application of technology to preserve our natural resources, lift the burden of heavy textbooks off the backs of students, and prepare our students by learning skills that are transferable to college and technology in the workplace.

### **Why did Lago Vista ISD choose a school-owned, rather than a personally-owned approach?**

The iPad is a highly personal device. A personally-owned, Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) model has certain advantages. But LVISD needs to coordinate the efforts of hundreds of teenage users. In such a context, a certain level of standardization is necessary to prevent problems caused by variations in device type, operating system version, and personal configuration.

There are also policy issues when working with minors that are not in play when working with adults. For this reason it is best for LVISD to own and have full legal control over the devices.

Harding ownership keeps the technology consistent among all of the students. This makes it less painful for parents, should the speed of technological change make it advisable to upgrade earlier than scheduled. Parents may struggle to buy yet another new device when they bought the previous device just two years ago.

**May I use my own device, if it meets with school specifications?**

For the reasons noted above, students are required to use the device provided by the school.

**May our family opt out of this program?**

This is not a supplement. The iPads are an essential part of instruction. Students will be at an academic disadvantage without iPads. Like other fundamental parts of the educational program, opting out is neither feasible nor permitted.

**Will students be able to take the iPad home?**

Yes. Not only can students take the iPad home, they are expected to take it home each night. The iPad will be used not only for in-class work but also for homework assignments. Many assignments will be unique to the iPad experience and cannot be replicated on any other device.

**What apps will be used and who will pick the apps?**

Certain apps will be selected by teachers and technology staff and will be “pushed” down to students through the active directory. Access to additional apps depends on the profile assigned to the student. See Student Device Profiles above for more information.

**Do I need to have wireless Internet service at home for this device to work?**

No. One of the advantages of the iPad is that it has sufficient memory to store textbooks and other materials required for homework, making it unnecessary to have Internet access at home. Naturally, an available connection at home will enable a student to use his/her iPad for Internet research, access files stored in the Cloud, and to complete some assignments. LVISD will provide filtered Internet access on campus. District-issued iPads do not have cellular connection capability.

**How does Lago Vista ISD support teachers in setting up well-structured lessons that integrate Canvas?**

The Director of Instructional Technology offers full time support to the staff. Teachers also receive training and embedded professional development on various topics, such as the effective use of Canvas and other innovative ways to integrate technology into instruction.

**Will all of my student's teachers use the iPad for instruction and assignments?**

One of LVISD’s strengths is that teachers have considerable leeway to exercise professional judgment. Just as teachers have in the past used different procedures for paper assignments, so they will have different procedures for online assignments. It is an expectation that teachers use the iPad as a learning tool in a manner that is most effective for the course and content. Students will receive the necessary instructions in their respective classes.

**How will awareness be raised with students regarding safe and responsible behaviors online both in school and at home?**

All students will receive digital citizenship training before receiving the device. Students will receive weekly lessons throughout the year. These lessons will be modified from the commonsensemedia.org curriculum.

**Will Lago Vista ISD provide parents an opportunity to learn about this program?**

Yes, each year, the District holds several information sessions for parents to learn about mobile learning before the start of the school year and throughout the school year. Lago Vista ISD also offers regularly scheduled parent workshops on various topics to provide continuing support for parents.

**What is a student's device is stolen?**

If the iPad is stolen, contact the police department immediately and be sure to get a copy of the police report. Any iPad theft must be reported to Lago Vista ISD on the next school day. You will be responsible for paying the full replacement value of the iPad, unless you have the Optional Accidental Damage and Theft Coverage. To enact this coverage in the event of theft, you must provide a police report.

**What if a student's device is lost?**

If a student loses the device, he or she must report it to Lago Vista ISD on the next school day. In the event that it is not recovered, you will be responsible for paying the full replacement value of the iPad. The Optional Accidental Damage and Theft Coverage does NOT cover a misplaced device.

**What happens if my student breaks the iPad?**

He or she should bring the device to a member of the technology department as soon as they are able. A member of the technology department will assess the damage and determine further action. You will be responsible for the cost of repairs, unless you have the Optional Accidental Damage and Theft Coverage. The Optional Accidental Damage and Theft Coverage is voided if the student removes the protective case supplied by Lago Vista ISD.

**Is there additional protection available in case my student's iPad is damaged or stolen?**

Families are encouraged to pay for the Optional Accidental Damage and Theft coverage for their District-issued iPad. Additional information is located in the LVISD Student & Parent iPad User Agreement.

**How will students print from their iPads?**

They won't. One of the objectives of the iPad is to make all documents digital. Beefing up the printing infrastructure and paper budget to accommodate 450 additional devices is not good stewardship. Teachers and administrators at each grade level have developed methods to exchange documents digitally. When something absolutely must be printed, it will be transmitted to one of the computers and printed from there.

**What if my student leaves it at home?**

It will be treated the same as leaving other necessary school supplies at home. The student will have to share with a classmate and make due with what is available. He or she is responsible for completing all worked missed due to not coming prepared to school.

**What if my student needs to charge their iPad during the school day?**

If your student brought the charger, they will be able to charge the iPad in the classroom, at the teachers' discretion.

**How will students get access to tech support?**

Tech support will be available before and after school in the Media and Academic Center (MAC) to assist any students that have questions or need assistance.

**Can my student take his/her iPad home for the summer?**

At this point, students will be required to return all devices at the end of the Spring semester for necessary reconditioning and upgrades.

**If my student is on the Explorer Profile, is there a way I can prevent him/her from purchasing apps or spending too much money on apps?**

Yes, you have several options. First you can set up an iTunes account for your student that does not have a credit card linked to it. This will allow your student to only download free apps or apps that the District has purchased. You can also use the Enable Restrictions within the Settings to restrict the iTunes Store and App purchases. The Lago Vista ISD Technology Department will assist any parent in setting up this option.

**I still have questions that are not addressed in this FAQ. Who do I contact?**

For answers to additional questions related to mobile learning, please contact the following people:

Heather Stoner  
Principal of Lago Vista High School  
[heather\\_stoner@lagovista.txed.net](mailto:heather_stoner@lagovista.txed.net)

Randy Mathisen  
Director of Instructional Technology  
[randy\\_mathisen@lagovista.txed.net](mailto:randy_mathisen@lagovista.txed.net)

Paul Hunt  
Director of Technology  
[paul\\_hunt@lagovista.txed.net](mailto:paul_hunt@lagovista.txed.net)

Dr. Suzy Lofton-Bullis  
Deputy Superintendent  
[suzy\\_lofton@lagovista.txed.net](mailto:suzy_lofton@lagovista.txed.net)