Marymount College require students to use an Apple iPad of Generation 3 or newer for all students in 2015. The use of a single (branded) device, ensures consistency of access for students and teachers in learning.

Some considerations if looking to purchase from new:
As at the end of last October (2014), Apple released the latest generation iPad iPad Air 2. The previous version (Generation iPad Air) is now one year old and therefore one year closer to a point in time where it will no longer be supported. As new as possible, where possible, is always best to maintain longevity. Primary differences between iPad Air and iPad Air 2 models include:
- slightly thinner and lighter in weight
- faster and more powerful processor
- anti-reflective screen
- touch ID security
- improved camera
- increased temporary memory (RAM)

Can my daughter use an iPad Mini?
In short, No. Whilst an iPad Mini can perform the same functions as a full-sized iPad, much of what is done for student learning centres around designing and creating - not just reading. The smaller screen size of a mini (whilst not impossible) does make the tactile space for design and creation difficult and ‘fiddly’.

Memory Size & WiFi vs Cellular
iPads can be purchased in three different memory sizes: 16Gb, 64Gb and 128Gb. Marymount College recommends students are best suited to a 64Gb model. Whilst a 16Gb model will perform the same functions as its 64Gb counterpart, the considerably smaller amount of space can at time be restrictive to students in storing large amounts of media (eg video) for task work. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure memory is managed to accommodate learning tasks - this may include the deletion of quantities of ‘selfies’!

Either WiFi or cellular models are acceptable. If a cellular model is used and contains a working SIM, students must remain on the College WiFi network while on campus. Switching to cellular data circumvents college filtering and contravenes the Acceptable User Agreement.

Purchasing
As the device is a personal device - purchased by the family (not owned by the College), methods of purchase are entirely up to individual families. You are therefore welcome to purchase from any retail outlet of your choice. Experience has shown that as a College, bulk purchasing iPads for parents does not provide any significant financial advantage. Costs between College and self purchase are very similar. Marymount College is aware of financial pressures placed on some of our families. For that reason, we urge you to please contact the college should you encounter difficulties.

Cases
Protective cases are a mandatory requirement for the student’s iPad. Acceptable cases must meet only two requirements: protected corners to prevent corner bumps (nearly all cases do this); a front fold-over cover to protect the screen when other objects may be inadvertently placed on top. In the instance of ‘Otter-Box’ like cases (very rugged cases but offer no screen protection), we still require students to have some form of screen protection in place. A conversation between parents / carers and your daughter is a wise starting point when deciding cases so as to find a balance between ruggedness and prettiness.

Purchase of apps
Students are required to have a selection of apps as determined by the College installed on their device. Marymount College is enrolled in Volume Purchasing for apps. In the vast majority of cases, we can purchase apps at approximately 50% cheaper than through the (retail) Apple app store.

To best facilitate this, all families will be billed $50 to their school account. These funds are then used on your behalf to purchase the specified apps. The apps always remain the property of the student / family and are not owned in any way by the College. Marymount’s role is simply to facilitate their purchase and in effect allow more for your money.

There is no need to purchase an iTunes voucher for your daughter.

Prior to the end of 2014, a list will be sent home indicating what apps will be purchased - so as to avoid multiple purchases over the summer break.