Apple iPad Revised Proxy Settings

Fact Sheet

Background

In order to allow Apple iPad and other iOS devices to access the Internet, most schools have been manually configuring the proxy address setting in the WiFi settings screen to *proxy.det.nsw.edu.au* on Port *8080*. While this will work, it does not provide the optimal gateway for your Apple mobile devices.

The use of the school's allocated PAC file to provide automatic proxy configuration is always recommended because it more appropriately directs browser and app requests, especially to local services that your school may offer, such as Moodle and Sentral.

In schools where eT4L Services have been enabled, the eT4L Server can deliver the school's PAC file automatically to iOS devices, as long as the device is running iOS 6 or later. In high schools and central schools that are not yet migrated to eT4L Services, the DER DIP Server delivers the PAC file the same way. Once the new setting is applied, the iPad will automatically detect the school's PAC file for the DETNSW WiFi service and apply it for use by the browser and other apps that need Internet Access.

Manually setting PAC file

If your school does not use Apple Configurator to manage all iPads, you will need to adjust the settings on each iPad to automatically obtain the school's PAC file. This process is the same for any BYOD iOS devices and it is recommended that students and staff alter their settings accordingly on their BYODs to remove reference to the manual proxy setting. As per the following screen shot, set HTTP Proxy to **Auto** and leave the URL field **blank**.

To simplify Apple iPad and other iOS device proxy settings, automatic delivery of the school's PAC file is now available
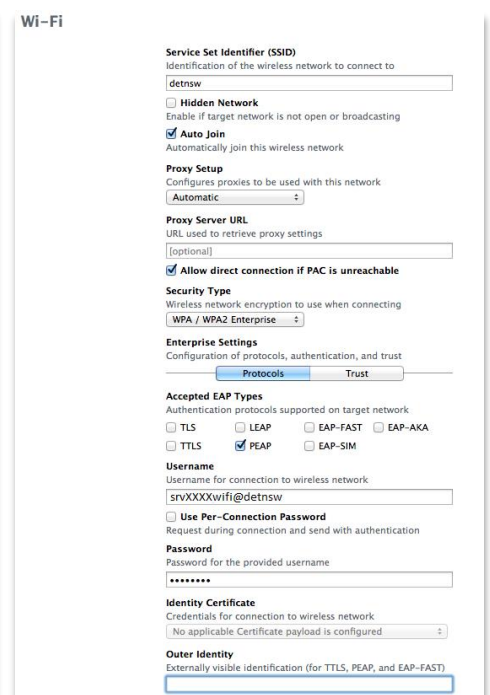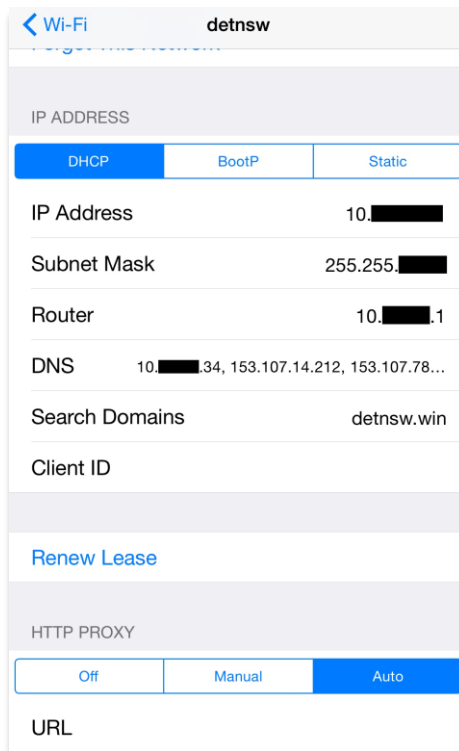

Image best viewed on screen

Using Apple Configurator to deploy the PAC file

For schools that manage their fleet of iPads using Apple Configurator, it's a simple matter to update the WiFi payload settings to reflect the following screenshot.

Once set, a sync of your iPads should adjust the proxy setting automatically to utilise the school's PAC file rather than the DEC manual proxy server address.

Further information

The implementation of Apple iPads in schools is a local initiative and their use is self-supported. An active iPad support community is established in DEC's Yammer service via the iPad Group.

© June 2015
NSW Department of Education and Communities