

IPAD FOR ST CYRES' PUPILS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – September 2019



IPAD SCHEME – ST CYRES SCHOOL – September 2019 FAQ

What type of iPad will my child receive?

Each child will receive an iPad 32Gb with Wifi connectivity.

Will the iPad be brand new?

Yes. The school has a planned refresh of iPads every 3-4 years. That means that each pupil should receive 2 brand new iPads in the 7 years that they are at St Cyres (assuming that they start in Year 7 and stay until the end of Year 13).

Will my child still have a planner?

No. However, all homework set by the school will be set via an iPad App called Google Classroom. Teachers will set the homework through this App and pupils will see it automatically on their iPads. Parents will also be able to monitor the homework set and completed by looking at the Google Classroom App on their child's iPad. Much of this homework will be completed by the pupils using the Google Apps.

Parents will be able to sign up for 'Google Guardian' email alerts as part of this App. Parents can choose to have daily or weekly alerts. This email will give you important information about the homework your child has received, including deadlines, marks, other feedback and if homework has not been completed. The school will provide further information on how to sign up for these email alerts as soon as is practicable. Please note, however, that this can sometimes take as long as 1 month following your child's start in the school.

Will my child be able to take the iPad home?

Yes. One of the key features of a strategy like this is that pupils get to keep the iPad with them wherever they go. That means that they will be able to access the teaching and learning resources that are stored on the iPad from wherever they are, including at home. Therefore, your child will be able to use these resources for revision, to help with homework or to revisit lesson content when required.

How will my child manage documents and other files on their iPad?

Your child will be taught how to use Google Drive on their iPad to help manage their files and documents. They will also use features of the cloud, combined with certain Apps to electronically submit homework and other tasks to their teachers.

What if my child forgets the iPad?

Your child's iPad will be just like any other piece of school equipment and we will expect them to have it with them at all times, fully charged, while in school. The iPad will be an important part of your child's lessons so it is essential that they have it at all times.

Will my child be able to charge the iPad in school?

No. The school has over 1200 pupils and therefore over 1200 iPads. It would be impossible to provide charging facilities for this number of iPads so we will expect the iPad to arrive in school fully charged. One of the reasons for selecting an iPad over other tablet devices is the excellent battery life which can often last several days.

Will the device be insured?

Yes. Your child's iPad will be fully insured against accidental damage, loss and theft. We will expect your child to look after their iPad like they would any other valuable electronic device. The greatest risk to an iPad is a cracked screen and this is why the school will purchase very good quality protective cases with a proven track record of protection.

Is there anything that is not covered by the insurance?

Yes. As with all insurance policies, your child's iPad will not be covered for deliberate damage or for loss or theft if the device is not properly secured or left unattended. The iPad will not be covered if it is damaged when not in the case provided by the school. The iPad charger and charger lead are not covered by the insurance (see below).

For further information on the insurance scheme, please refer to the Acceptable Use Policy that you and your child will have signed when joining the school.

Is the iPad charger and charger lead covered by the insurance?

No. Unfortunately, neither the school nor Apple will cover the charger or charger lead. Particular care needs to be taken with the charger lead as these are very easy to damage if not used correctly. There are more details about this in the 'iPad Acceptable Usage Policy' which is the contract that you will need to sign as part of this scheme. If the charger or charger lead is damaged by the pupil, this will need to be replaced by the parents.

What type of case will be provided to protect the iPad?

The school has done extensive research on the best type of protective cases and, from a short-list of 3 different cases, the School Council selected the STM Dux case. This is a high quality case which will minimise the number of breakages and has been used successfully on other schools.

Will my child have to use the case provided by the school?

Yes. The choice of case is very important and is key to minimising damage caused by dropping the device. The school has researched the best protective cases on the market and will select the one that best suits our needs whilst offering the best protection. Because of this, we must insist that pupils use the case that we will provide and they will be unable to use their own cases. It will be a requirement of the insurance that the school case is used.

Why is my child using an iPad in school?

In 2016 the school was recognised as an Apple Distinguished School. This programme recognises centres of leadership and educational excellence. They use iPad and Mac products to inspire pupil creativity, collaboration and critical thinking. And they cultivate environments in which pupils are excited and curious about learning. Teachers have developed digital resources which will run on the iPads. Resources such as electronic text books with the advantage of being able to include video, sound, animations and links to websites, along with many other features have been created. Your child will be able to access these resources 24/7. Your child will also be able to use their iPad to access some of the high quality educational Apps that are on the Apple App Store. Your child will also have greater access to the internet for research

purposes and will have the advantage of utilising some of the communication facilities that tablets allow.

Will my child be able to download their own Apps for use at home?

Yes. One of the big advantages of schemes such as this is that pupils will be able to use their iPad as if it was their own when not in school. Therefore, they will be able to download their own games and Apps onto the device when not in school. However, the device still belongs to the school and will be filtered and monitored by the school and we will not allow inappropriate Apps to be downloaded.

What happens if my child breaks the glass on the iPad?

Provided that the school's protective case is used and that all reasonable care has been taken, the device will be insured against accidental breakages. Of course, we ask all pupils to look after their iPad as if it were their own. Please be aware, however, that even though the device is insured against accidental breakages, there may be a delay in getting the iPad repaired during which time your child will be without an iPad.

I have concerns about my child's safety when using a mobile device. How will the school address this?

Your child currently receives and will continue to receive advice and guidance on staying safe online and this is part of both the PSE and ICT schemes of work. When your child's iPad is in school and connected to the school Wifi, their internet access will be filtered and limited to only appropriate websites. You can be assured that all internet activity on school iPads is fully monitored and filtered at all times, even when at home or in a public Wifi hotspot. Therefore, the iPad will have the same restrictions as if it were connected to the school's Wifi.

What advice will you provide my child with about health and safety aspects when using a mobile device regularly?

We will give you and your child advice on the safe use of iPads to help reduce the possible effects of eye strain or any other health issues brought about by excessive use of electronic devices. Most of the advice is centered around taking regular breaks from electronic devices and this advice applies equally to the excessive use of mobile phones, computers and games consoles.

What will happen to the iPad when my child leaves school?

Your child's iPad remains the property of the school at all times and we will collect the iPad from your child after their last exam in Year 11 and/or Year 13.

Will my child be able to play games on the iPad?

Your child will be able to download games onto their iPad when not in school and will be able to play these games when not in school or during breaks and lunchtimes in school. Games will not be allowed in lessons and this will be monitored very carefully by teaching staff.

Does this mean that my child will never write again?

No. Your child will still have exercise books and will still need to write! Your child's iPad will give them access to eBooks (electronic text books) and other electronic notes

and resources to help them with their work, but they will still be expected to complete work in exercise books. There will be some occasions where your child will be able to submit work completed on the iPad to their teacher electronically.

How will my child know which iPad is theirs?

All school iPads will be recognisable because they will have the school badge as the lockscreen wallpaper. As well as the School badge this lockscreen page will also have a message about the School ownership along with the pupil's name.

Will my child still get chance to use a Windows computer at school?

Yes. The iPad will be used as a teaching and learning tool for all subjects in the curriculum but your child will still learn to use Windows computers as part of their ICT lessons.

My child already has an Android or Windows Tablet. Can they use this instead of a school iPad?

No. The majority of resources created by teachers as part of the teaching and learning strategy are only compatible with Apple devices. Therefore, it will not be possible for your child to use an Android or Windows Tablet. Furthermore, it is important that all children are using the same device so that teachers can ensure that all pupils can access the same resources and the same Apps in their lessons. Personal tablets will not be covered by the school's insurance policy.