



Digital Learning Scheme

INTRODUCTION

A Digital World

In schools, we cannot hide from the fact that the world is changing at an increasing rate. At Heathfield we believe we are not just preparing students for now but also for the future. The way in which people work and the jobs our students will find themselves in are constantly changing. Technological developments impact all our lives on a daily basis.

Young people are more adept at responding to change. They have the ability to apply their learning skills to a variety of situations and are able to engage in applications that may have only been established months previously.

At Heathfield we are committed to delivering a curriculum that allows for traditional methods of teaching and learning to take place with the support of new digital technologies. Our staff are able to select the most appropriate resources to enable student choice, personalisation and engagement in learning.



The Digital Learning Environment

The iPad provides a teaching and learning resource which allows students to engage with subjects in a variety of different ways that were not previously possible.

Staff have the ability to share resources and give feedback simply and efficiently. The use of Learning Platforms enables students to monitor and plan for work that needs to take place outside of the classroom and access specific resources needed for these activities.

The iPad can give immediate access to resources that are recent and relevant to topics being taught in class. Subject specific applications can support the delivery of topics to help and guide students during revision and homework activities.

The methods that students use to demonstrate their understanding also widens. Work can be written, recorded, photographed or filmed. Students can present their work in high quality publications, recording their progress.

“After seeing them in lessons I am more confident of the value of the iPad and their appropriate use.”

Parent Learning Walk Feedback

The Role of the iPad

When deciding upon a device to implement a whole school Digital Learning strategy, it was decided that a portable tablet would be the most appropriate. A tablet would allow resources to be accessed with ease; it would be lightweight and portable. It would also be durable and reliable.

Following a range of research which considered the type of tablets, the concept of different devices and the use of laptops, it was decided that consistency was vital and a single device must be used. This consistency would allow the College to implement a scheme ensuring teachers, students and parents could receive the necessary training and support using the devices. It also ensured that the management of the devices and apps would be reliable and easy to deliver across the whole student body.

Based on research into the different types of tablets on offer, it was decided that the iPad met the requirements of the College. The iPad is recognised around the world as the tablet of choice for educationalists. It also has the strongest foothold and is one of the most reliable devices on the market. The Apple App Store is also increasingly populated with high quality apps to support learning both at home and in the classroom.

THE SCHEME

Our Provider

The College works in partnership with Apple premium education partners. These partners are long established providers of IT solutions who are passionate about education, and in addition to providing us with the method of delivering our devices, they work collaboratively with the College to further enhance our provision. We also work in partnership with CHG-Meridian who lease the devices and CPU / GoCardless who process the direct debits.

The Contribution from the College

The College continues to support ICT across the curriculum and manages its infrastructure which includes:

- High quality wireless internet access
- A specialist team of IT Support Technicians
- Developing opportunities for Student Leadership through our Digital Genius programme
- Training and support for students to ensure they make the most of the devices in their learning.

The facilities already in place across the College support students access to subject specific software through the use of both Windows and Apple computers.

As a College we also share resources to support students and parents when using the iPad. This includes guidance for settings along with useful resources about the common Applications used when learning.

The Contribution from Families

This leads us to the contribution we are asking from families. We are inviting families to play their part in supporting the Digital Learning scheme to allow students to access the latest resources for their learning. Although the immediate product of this scheme is an iPad, it is categorically a learning scheme that we are asking parents to contribute to on a monthly basis over a three-year period. In 2025 the scheme cost is £14.00 per month and will run for 36 months covering years 7 to 9. It is expected that students

can continue to use this iPad in college in years 10 and 11. This may be a way for families to reduce costs as long as the iPad is protected for continued use. At the start of Year 10 a new scheme will be offered to parents, but there will not be an expectation that parents have to sign up and students can continue to use the initial iPad in college.

If you are joining mid-year then the same scheme can be offered. However the amount of monthly payments may need to be adjusted if the total months would exceed the student's time at the college.

This device will be yours to keep at the end of the scheme, assuming that all monthly payments have been made

The current cost of being part of the scheme includes:

- The cost of the iPad
- A ruggedised protective case
- A range of paid for Apps
- Provision of a mobile device management system
- Wi-Fi and broadband systems
- Accidental Damage Cover via a *repair and replacement fund*



“ The iPad has enabled my daughter to be far more organised and responsible than she might have been. ”

Parent Learning Walk Feedback

Repair and Replacement Fund

The scheme includes a contribution to a *repair and replacement fund*. In the past the college used an insurance provider. However we found that frequently claims were rejected for unfair reasons which then placed a financial burden on parents.

If the iPad is accidentally damaged then the college will cover the cost to repair / replace the device up to a maximum of twice per academic year. Please note that the college reserves the right to refuse to cover the costs if the device is damaged by negligence or intentional damage.

Loss is not covered by the *repair and replacement fund*. Theft is covered providing there is a specific incident which is reported to the police and a crime reference number is obtained.

The *repair and replacement fund* also functions as an extended warranty once the initial warranty period expires.

A Commitment: Every Child Will Have Access to this Opportunity

We are committed to every single child having an equal and fair access to our digital curriculum within the terms and conditions of College Behaviour Policy.

If a family already owns an iPad, or wishes to purchase one independently then this can be set up for the child to use.

The device should be no more than 3 years old. This is to ensure that all children can access the Apps being used in the classrooms. A small charge is also applied to allow students access to College based applications and the management system. This charge is currently £5 per year.

How Often Will the iPad Feature in the Learning?

Our Curriculums are built around the opportunities provided by the iPad, however, no subject will use it all the time. We encourage our teachers to use the most appropriate methods to deliver the content and skills required in their subject.

The iPad provides a connection between the work being completed in College and the work completed at home. It allows students to access all homework tasks through Arbor and supporting resources through the various learning platforms the college uses.

Teachers can also use the features of the iPad to allow students to record, photograph or present their homework in different methods giving variety to students learning activities.

Safe and Unlimited Storage of All Work

Students have a number of facilities to back up work from their iPad. Students will be set up with both Google Drive and One Drive accounts for documents produced. Students can also back up to their iCloud storage directly from supported applications or through saving in the Files app. All students will be issued with a Managed Apple ID which provides them with 200GB of iCloud storage.

Students and families will be given instructions and access to online guides on the best ways of managing the space on their iPads along with how to upload work into the required areas.

Student Safety and Screen Time

The safety of students is paramount for us at the College. We have invested in hardware and a mobile device management system which can focus permissions down to individual websites or control access to an individual App at any given moment.

The Operating System provided on the iPad (iOS) comes with a large number of features that can allow parents to limit the amount of time spent on a device, along with altering light levels at specific points during the day.