



## *Welcome to Strike Lane Primary School's iPad Scheme*

*Information for  
Parents 2020/21*

### *Our vision...*

- To continually strive to provide all our pupils with the best possible access to learning.
- To help all our children achieve their full potential.
- To encourage independent learning and equip our children for adult life.
- To offer all our pupils access to a variety of learning styles.

### *We believe...*

- Learning does not stop as soon as you walk out of the school gate, it can take place anywhere at any time!
- Everyone at Strike Lane should be connected digitally to communicate, share and engage in learning (children, teachers and parents).
- Every pupil and family should be offered the opportunity to join the Apple iPad Scheme.

### *The concept...*

- To ensure that your child has access to an Apple iPad both in school and at home.
- Children bring the device to school every day and expect to use it for learning in and between lessons every day, anywhere in school.
- Children use their iPad at home for research, homework and for communicating with their peers and teachers.



# *Enhance learning, anytime, anywhere...*

We believe that technology, if used correctly and at the right times, can have a profound effect on your child's learning. Technology can be engaging, exciting and can open up new possibilities, which may have been difficult or even impossible to achieve in the past. The pace at which technology is moving is astonishing! New advances in technology mean that we are at the dawn of a new age, where students can collaborate, investigate and explore

like never before. This is not to say that traditional teaching methods are not important. On the contrary! The teacher, environment and resources are all extremely important too. But, if we are to prepare our students for their future, we must act now by equipping them with the technology that will enable them to develop the skills that they will need.

## *The Mobile Device...*

We have looked at a range of possible devices with one key objective in mind: to find the device that will best support your child's learning both in school and at home now and in the future.

We want to enable pupils to work collaboratively, to communicate effectively, to be creative and have more enquiring minds so that they become increasingly independent learners and thinkers. At the same time we want to equip them with the technical skills that they will require as they begin their life-long journey into a new digital age.

The device itself must be robust, intuitive to use and compatible with the existing school infrastructure. The technology must be sustainable and provide access to high quality apps. After extensive research, our choice of device is the Apple iPad 7th generation 32GB WiFi.



*“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember,*

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# *The Ins and Outs, of the iPad Scheme...*

## *How the scheme works*

Your child will be provided with:

- An Apple iPad to use at school and at home;
- Introductory training on the use of the device;
- Access to support from our school ICT partner and Apple supplier, to resolve technical issues quickly and easily (for example how to connect to your wireless network at home)

Parents will be provided with:

- Support and training both online and face-to-face at training evenings;
- Regular updates on how pupils are using their iPads around school.

## *What you will receive*

- Access (at school and home) to an iPad with a protective case and bag.
- Wireless connection to the internet at school;
- In school access to the school network to enable back-up of work;
- Access to apps that will be used across the curriculum.
- Warranty, theft (not loss) and accidental damage cover for the duration of the scheme

## *5 key reasons to join the scheme...*

- Pupils can work independently and at a pace that suits their individual needs;
- Get unlimited access to teaching resources anytime from anywhere;
- Collaborate with their peers electronically;
- Communicate with their teachers and get support when they need it most;
- Have access to all the apps they use in school at home.

## *How can you join the scheme?*

Instructions on how to sign up to the portal can be found in the EDDE leaflet which is attached to this Parent Mail.

*“Technology... we don't know where it will lead. We just know there's something much bigger than any of us here” (Steve Jobs)*

# FAQ's

*My child already has an Apple iPad, can they use this instead of joining the scheme?*

They can use this at home but will not be able to bring in to school. This is due to us being able to control pushing apps out and also through the cover we provide.

*Are there advantages to joining the scheme?*

Definitely! We have decided to purchase the devices rather than lease so that the average payment required is kept to a minimum and parents can benefit fully from the savings we have been able to secure. The iPad is covered against accidental damage and theft and repairs will be carried out as quickly as possible.

Families that fully support the scheme will be entitled to keep the devices used by their child/children once the final payment has been made.

*Can my child use an alternative device?*

No. It is important that there is consistency amongst devices so that we can ensure that all students have access to the same learning tools and resources. There are also issues with compatibility and security.

*What happens if I genuinely feel unable to participate in the scheme?*

It is important you contact the school and speak to one of our team so that we may discuss how best to support you and your child, as we feel it is important that no child is excluded from the scheme on financial grounds.

*What happens to the device if your child leaves Strike Lane?*

The devices are owned by the scheme, so would need to be returned if a pupil leaves. If you would like to keep the device, you would need to pay the outstanding balance to transfer ownership of the device to yourselves.

*What about the risk of damage or loss?*

Pupils can return the device to school, a faulty device will be repaired, normally free of charge, or replaced with a device of a similar age, specification and condition. If the device is accidentally damaged or stolen then it will be replaced with equipment of a similar specification. If applicable the damaged device will be disposed of securely. Please note devices left unattended are not covered.

Loss/damage of the charger or case is not covered by insurance and replacements will be charged at the retail price (charger £40, case £15, storage bag £10). Please note devices left unattended are not covered against loss or damage.

*“The science of today is the technology of tomorrow” Edward Teller*

# FAQ's

*Will tablet technology last 3 years? Isn't there a danger of investing in a technology that will soon be superseded/redundant?*

This is true and this is why sustainability and flexibility are key to the scheme. The scheme is not about a shiny toy, it is about using technology to allow students a voice in their learning and in developing as independent learners.

One could agree that the question posed would mean never investing in technology as it may well become redundant one day. By making this scheme about using and developing skills, the device will always be able to achieve this over its lifespan. We are committed to creating an infrastructure that is robust.

*Will the case provide adequate protection?*

The case we have chosen is durable and, if used correctly, will provide excellent protection for the front and back of the iPad. The case enables the iPad to stand portrait and landscape. The iPad must be kept in the protective case at all times otherwise it is not covered by the insurance.

*Will it be compatible with our home computer? What about printing?*

All the basic applications (such as Pages, Numbers and Keynote) are fully compatible, for example your child will be able to produce a Word, Excel or PowerPoint document on a tablet or laptop and transfer it to their iPad or vice versa. Your child will also be able to sync their device with their home computer should they choose.

The device will work seamlessly with Air Print compatible wireless printers. If you do not have this facility at home your child will be able to use Airdrop to transfer documents to print.

*What if I don't have an internet connection at home?*

The majority of the iPad apps that we will be using in school don't require an internet access to function and therefore the device will still be functional at home.

*I'm worried about my child's reading, writing and spelling skills because of their use of ICT...*

We are very aware of the careful balance that needs to be achieved between the use of ICT and traditional skills like writing by hand, reading and spelling. Pupils will use their device every day but not in every lesson. Using technology can be a really powerful way of boosting a student's reading age and literacy skills in a fun engaging way.

*Will the device be locked down, restricting what they can do with it?*

The school will 'manage' the device to enable us to: push settings, apps and ebooks to it as and when necessary, locate it remotely using GPS, enforce a passcode, monitor usage and if necessary wipe the device remotely. In school the usual internet filters will apply. Beyond this there are no restrictions in place. We believe that it is important to teach the pupils to act responsibly and for that reason it will be down to you and your child to decide and to discuss what is appropriate and what isn't. We will also run online safety sessions for pupils and parents periodically.

*I am not good with technology; how will I be able to support my child?*

We feel that it is extremely important that parents take an active role in their child's learning and we therefore encourage you to engage in conversation with your child each day to find out how they've been using their device. We will also run drop in support sessions at Training Evenings and you will be able to access help guides and videos via our school website, newsletters or Parent Mail.

# FAQ's

*Will my child need their own iTunes account?*

No. The iPads will not have the App Store on as the school will push all apps out. Once your child leaves school the App Store will be added and all school Apps will be wiped.

*How much will pupils actually use the device?*

We want to promote a culture where pupils take ownership of their device and demand use of it every day as part of their learning, alongside traditional teaching and learning methods. Together with the resources available, this device will form an integral part of your child's studies. The device will be used daily by pupils, sometimes as directed by the teacher and sometimes through pupils' own initiative. It is expected that your child will bring the device to school every day fully charged (the battery should last around 2 days once fully charged).

*Do the students really use them?! Will the teachers be able to support my child & ensure the device is being used for learning every day?*

Yes! Ensuring teachers adopt the new technology and adapt both lessons and schemes of work to incorporate it is extremely important. All of our teachers meet regularly to look for ways of enhancing learning & teaching across the school. Classes will be updating their activities on their Twitter accounts and of course, they will be able to show you what they have been working on at home.

As the pupils will have access to their own device they will find and create ways of using them that we haven't even thought of yet!

## What is the cost . . . is it good value?

We are extremely fortunate to be able to offer these devices at such low rates as the school will be taking the lease out until the final parental payments are made. The savings associated with this are significant and are reflected in the low payments schemes on offer :

**Payment outright - £423.80**

**36 monthly payments of - £13.80**

**A non-refundable deposit of £10 will be required by 15th July 2020 paid via Parent Mail.**

## What happens now?

School will collate the level of interest from the numbers who have signed up to the portal and if the scheme is financially viable we will be working with our finance company to have the iPad scheme up and running by October 2020. First payments will be collected at the beginning of October 2020.

