

PARENTS IPAD SCHEME QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

This list of FAQs is not exhaustive. If you have any questions to ask after reading this document please email RSiPads@rs.rklt.co.uk

What if we don't want to take part in the scheme?

While we would encourage all families to take part, it is your right to choose not to do so. Please be fully aware, however, that by opting out your child will not be provided with an iPad unless their year group makes this mandatory. This means your child may end up sharing in the classroom with other pupils in the same situation while those who have opted in will have their own.

Once you have opted out it may not be possible for you to change your mind. The school only has a finite amount of funds and may not be able to buy more devices.

NOTE: For current Year 7 pupils (and Year 10 pupils <u>after the 2023 scheme has been launched</u>) it will be mandatory that every child in the Year Group uses an iPad in school. Where students cannot provide their own device a loaned iPad will be provided.

Who owns the Device?

The iPad remains the property of the school until it is bought from us, They are provided to the pupils at the discretion of the school and students can be withdrawn from the scheme if they break any of the rules or they exceed the repair allowance.

Your contribution is a charitable contribution towards the programme, not a payment towards the device.

To make the scheme affordable to all, the amount we are suggesting does not cover the full cost of running the programme and additional money will have to be provided from school funds.

The school appreciates your support of our schemes and so, after the scheme ends, we then make them available for purchase at the market value at that time.

We hope that you take up the offer to buy when it is made. If you do not purchase the iPad at that point the iPad will be reclassed as an iPad on loan from the school and you will need to return it to school on leaving.

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What happens if the Device gets damaged or lost?

The iPads are insured for accidental damage and theft and it is mandatory for you to pay a repair fee and complete a repair form in advance of any repair or replacement taking place.

The pricing structure is shown on our web page, but there are exclusions. Please visit our iPad web pages to check what is and isn't covered and the procedure to follow. For damage or loss not covered by our repair service, the full cost of repair or replacement is payable in advance of the iPad being returned/replaced

Why can't the school provide these for nothing?

The school receives some funding for ICT in school, and this gets spent on our network, the website, ICT suites, printers, etc. Equipment for use at home and for personal use by your children is over and above this, which is why we have to ask our families to make a contribution, Without that help the programme would not be able to continue.

What happens if I can't make the regular donations?

No child will be excluded from access to an iPad because of their financial circumstances. If your circumstances change and you can no longer commit to the amount you promised at the start of the scheme please email RSiPads@rs.rklt.co.uk to discuss the options available.

Can I donate by cash or cheque?

No. We only collect contributions via direct debit with the Learning Foundation.

What happens if I change my mind in a few months' time?

If you commit to the scheme and then change your mind later this would give the school a big problem as our decision to go ahead and buy the devices for the students is based on the expected income coming in from promised donations. Changing your mind would compromise the school's finances. This is a commitment to the children that needs to be seen through.

Can't I go and buy a cheaper device on the High Street?

Personal devices will not longer be allowed in school for all Year 7 intake groups from September 2024 onwards. All other year groups are able to provide their own iPads for use possibly but they do will not be provided with apps and they are not able to submit their iPad for repair through the school's

repair service. Please email iPads at RSiPads@rs.rklt.co.uk if you wish to provide your own iPad as the iPad will need to be modified to connect to the school's Wi-Fi..

Why am I making a donation to the Learning Foundation?

The Learning Foundation is a registered education charity that is collecting monthly parental donations on our behalf to save us administration costs. They will collect your donation every month and apply for tax relief where applicable, and then grant the money back to us to pay the bills.

Do I have to sign the Gift Aid declaration?

It is vital you do this if you are a UK taxpayer; otherwise the cost of administering the collection of donations has to come out of the donations themselves. *Please do agree to Gift Aid if you are a taxpayer*.

How much do we need to donate?

We ask that you make the full donation (£13 a month over the length of the scheme).

In setting this suggested monthly contribution we have factored in the following costs:

Y7 2023 iPad Programme:

The cost of the providing two brand new iPads and protective cases at the start of Year 7 and in Year 10.

Other iPad Schemes:

The cost of providing one brand new iPad and protective case. This includes the Year 10 iPad scheme that will start later this year.

In addition, for all Schemes:

- Cover for loss and reasonable damage, subject to a prepayment of the appropriate repair fee by home to go towards the cost of fixing it
- Admin and technical support costs
- Cost of the Mobile Device Management scheme and the software and apps to keep students safe and to keep learning effective

Can I buy the iPad outright at the start of the Scheme?

No, it is not possible to buy the iPad at the start of the scheme.

To keep our running costs low it is necessary for all students to return their scheme iPad if they are leaving us, unless they have an **Option to Buy** (please see our Leavers iPad web pages for eligibility).

If you are able to afford to make a purchase up front, and your child's Year Group allows it, then it makes more sense for you to buy and provide a personal device for use in school. They will then be able to leave and take it with them. Please note that if you provide a personal device it cannot use the school's repair service.

Why should I donate the full amount if others don't?

We can only run this programme if the majority of families are prepared to contribute the full amount we ask for. We do have financial assistance available to those who cannot afford the full amount, but this is limited. Where families are unable to contribute the full amount they are asked to contact RSiPads@rs.rklt.co.uk in confidence for the options available.

Will we need to buy any other equipment?

Ideally every pupil should have access to the Internet at home. You may also want to get a printer so that your child can print off their work but this is not essential as they can always do this when they come back to school.

What happens when I sign the Gift Aid declaration?

The Learning Foundation keep your declaration on file as proof that they are able to claim the additional 25% in Gift Aid from the Inland Revenue.

Who do I tell if I change my bank account?

Please let the Learning Foundation know as soon as possible if you change your bank account by writing to them or emailing them with your new bank details. In your letter or email, please include your name, your child's name and the name of your child's school.