



iPad FAQ's – Financial details

Rationale

Since gaining our 'Outstanding' judgement in 2010 we have been continuing to develop our pedagogy to ensure we provide the best teaching and learning for all students at Rossett. This has included preparation for a rapidly changing world which involves more use of digital media. We believe that by introducing a scheme which will ensure that everyone has access to an iPad at home and school their learning will be enhanced and supported.

Much of the recent educational research shows that the biggest impact on student progress is:

- Effective feedback
- Peer tutoring/peer assisted learning
- Understanding how individuals learn

Some of the ways in which we have already been using iPads to assist these can be seen on our website and in the accompanying video.

Financial arrangements

- **What are the principles of the 'One to One' iPad scheme?**

We have looked very carefully at the options for the 'One to One' iPad scheme and we have a solution that delivers the following objectives:

Fairness – we want all students to benefit from the use of iPads, regardless of financial circumstances. We hope that all parents who are able to contribute will do so.

Sustainability – we want a scheme that will be sustainable for the school in the light of tough budgets ahead.

Affordability – we want the monthly donation to be as low as possible.

- **How does the scheme work?**

Each student opting into the scheme will be given access to an iPad for use in school and at home. It is not a lease scheme or a purchase scheme.

All parents will be asked to contribute a voluntary monthly donation to our partner charity the Learning Foundation. Once costs have been deducted for administration, the charity will pass over the donations and gift aid to the school. Taking part in the Learning Foundation donation scheme will allow the student to take their iPad home as well as use it in school.

A payment of £40.00 will be required for each individual insurance claim. Claims will not be processed until payment has been received

The school will purchase the iPad and associated items in the iPad bundle including the case, the damage insurance and the starter apps.

- **How much do we need to pay?**

We ask that you make a donation of £12 a month (which is equivalent to £2.77 a week) over 36 months although you can pay more if you like as this is a donation scheme. The good news is that because we are offering this programme to all the students in the year group, the Learning Foundation can claim Gift Aid worth 25% on all donations made by parents who are UK taxpayers and have signed the Gift Aid declaration. This means that it can be used to support the scheme.

- **What happens when the scheme finishes?**

At the end of the scheme it is likely that parents will have the opportunity to make a separate payment to buy the iPad outright. This will be based on the market value at the time and we estimate this is likely to be in the region of £40. Otherwise the iPad will need to be returned to school. We anticipate a new iPad or similar device will be issued to the students after the 36 month period is up and we would seek to enter into a new scheme agreement with parents at this point.

- **Can I make my contribution for the iPad upfront?**

We would be delighted if parents were able to make a one-off donation at the start of the scheme and there will be an option to do so on the direct debit form. This would assist the school with the cash funding of the scheme. It is important to realise that the iPad would belong to the school until the end of the scheme at which point we expect to offer the chance to transfer ownership outright at market value.

- **What if we don't want to take part?**

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 their own iPad device to take home, we shall ensure that they have an iPad to use during lesson time.

- **Why can't the school provide these for nothing?**

The school receives limited funding for ICT and this gets spent on our network, 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 you to make a contribution. Without that help the programme would not be able to go ahead.

- **Why should I pay if others don't?**

We run this programme on the basis that a small number of families in difficult circumstances can be accommodated with support from the school and others.

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

No child will be excluded from the programme because of their financial circumstances so please come and talk to us so we can ensure your child is included. We do have limited funds to subsidise the scheme for those in very challenging circumstances. We recognise that some families with several children may not be able to donate the full suggested amount for each child. Virtually all parents donate the suggested monthly amount, however a number make a partial payment each month.

- **Who owns the device?**

The devices are the property of the school for the next three years and are provided to the pupils at the discretion of the school. Your contribution is a charitable donation 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. Additional money will be provided from school funds, and grants we may win from other sources. However, the school has no intention of keeping the devices after the three years is up, and we will then make them available at their market value to all our families.

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

This would give the school a big problem as our decision to go ahead and buy the devices for the children will be based on the initial level of support from our parents. Changing your mind halfway through the programme would compromise the school's finances. This is a commitment to the children that needs to be seen through.

- **Why am I paying my donation to the e-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, apply for tax relief where applicable and then grant the money back to us to pay the bills.

- **Can I pay by cash or cheque?**

Payments are made through the online direct debit form only. Cash or cheque will not be accepted.

- **Do I have to sign the Gift Aid declaration?**

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

Gift Aid applies to cash and cheque contributions as well as direct debits so please do sign it if you are a taxpayer.

- **What happens when I sign the Gift Aid declaration?**

The school send the declaration to the e-Learning Foundation. We keep the form on file as proof that we are able to claim the additional 25% in Gift Aid from the Inland Revenue. Those parents receiving tax credits may deduct the annual value of grossed up 'One to One' iPad scheme donations when calculating their annual income which may lead to increased tax credits being received.

- **Who do I tell if I change my bank account?**

Please let us know as soon as possible if you change your bank account by writing to us with your new bank details.

- **What happens if the iPad gets damaged or lost or develops a fault?**

The school will have a limited pool of iPads to lend to students if they temporarily need a replacement device. Where feasible, a damaged or faulty iPad will be repaired. Otherwise a replacement iPad of a similar age and condition will be provided on loan. Families may be asked to pay further sums towards the cost of replacement or repair caused by inappropriate use or lack of care. iPad with faults will normally be repaired free of charge or replaced with a similar device. Lost iPads are not covered by insurance.

- **What if I already own an iPad?**

If your child already has access to an iPad with an inbuilt camera that they will be able to bring to school each day they would be free to do so. The device will be able to access the school network and other resources required in lessons, however the device will not be supported by our Network Team ie it would not be covered by the school warranty so could not be fixed free of charge in school. You must arrange your own insurance.

- **Can I go and buy a cheaper device on the High Street?**

Depending on your own personal circumstances regarding risk (damage, theft, failure etc) it is probable you can purchase at a slightly cheaper price. But this isn't just about the device. The learning programme we are providing will involve a device that is covered in case of loss or damage or if repairs are needed. It will come with a case and a package of initial Apps. We will provide technical support whilst at school and your child will have access to learning resources on the schools learning environment. Lessons will be planned with the understanding that each student has the same device.