

iPads for Learning: Parent Pledge

Dear Parent/Carer.

Our Aims

At Madeley School we are committed to giving every student the best education possible. There is no doubt that digital technology will continue to transform the workplace and all aspects of our lives. We have a responsibility to our pupils to equip them with the skills necessary to succeed in that 21st century workplace: to be digitally literate, to be able to think and work independently, to be able to problem-solve and to collaborate with one another. We believe that technology can play a crucial role in the classroom, transforming the learning opportunities available to our students.

Our Beliefs

Madeley School believes that embracing more fully the potential of the use of IT in the education process can help to:

- **Learn effectively and accelerate progress**
- **Support skills for life**
- **Enhance enjoyment of learning**

The use of iPads by pupils on a 1:1 basis has the potential to provide opportunities to enhance pupils' overall learning experience; give access to learning anywhere, anytime – both in classrooms and at home; narrow the digital divide between pupils; encourage pupils to become more independent in their learning; personalise learning to suit individual pupils and provide opportunities to create and share work.

We believe that iPads empower us to work together to open new avenues to learning, so that our students are flexible and creative and better prepared for the future.

Our iPad Learning Scheme

From September we will have all pupils in Years 7- 9 using iPads in school and at home for their learning. This is an incredibly exciting time and staff, pupils and parents are very enthusiastic in their support of what we are trying to do at the school.

The Challenge

The school made a commitment to ensuring that all students had access to a personal iPad by 2025/26. The school intended to fully fund this scheme.

However, over the past two academic years the financial pressures that have been placed upon schools' mirrors that which have been experienced in all our domestic situations.

Unprecedented rises in energy costs, operational contracts, equipment, resources, and unfunded pay awards have resulted in severe pressures on school budgets. Madeley is no exception to this, but we are committed to ensuring an exceptional opportunity for all our students. Our iPad ambition remains – we want all Madeley pupils to have one by 2025/26.

Parental Pledge

The school currently operates a rolling 3-year lease scheme with an external partner. This ensures that every 3 years the iPad is returned to our external partner and replaced with the most current iPad specification.

Following a consultation with parents and families during the summer I am thrilled that many of you were committed to supporting the school by committing to a voluntary pledge of financial support towards the cost of the lease.

We are asking that parents/carers pledge to make a voluntary minimum donation of approximately £10 a month. In return for this pledge your child will continue to receive the latest iPad plus keyboard case, wall charger, full insurance for the iPad against damage and theft, all software and applications needed and technical support during school hours. The school will make no profit from the parental donations.

Making the pledge

The most effective way for parents to make these payments is monthly through the schools *ParentPay* platform. You can access this using the following link <https://www.parentpay.com/>. For our new parents whose children are joining us in Y7 you will receive your log-in details for *ParentPay* on Wednesday 6th September.

As a collective group, I know that as parents of Madeley pupils you are unwavering in your support, making Madeley a very popular and successful oversubscribed place of learning.

If you have any queries about this, then I will gladly answer any queries that you have if you contact me at the school.

Many thanks for your anticipated support.

Yours sincerely

L Nixon
Principal

