

## Digital Learning Programme Featuring iPad

At Newcastle Academy we are passionate about preparing our students for the future and giving them the best possible chances in life. Technology is ever prominent in the world of work, with at least 90% of jobs now requiring ICT skills. With this in mind, we are fully embedding technology into teaching and learning across the school. Our Digital Learning Programme will be the catalyst for this for years to come!

The core aims of our digital learning programme are as follows:

- To provide new and innovative ways for students to learn and for our staff to deliver the curriculum and engage with students in creative ways.
- To prepare students for working and living in a digital age.
- To ensure access to the internet as a resource for students at school and at home.
- To support independent and student-led problem solving and research within our curriculum.
- To improve the quality of assessment, feedback, home learning and collaboration.

The school will offer a three-year programme that provides a fully managed and supported iPad. The programme is designed to be fair, affordable, and sustainable.

### Your child will be issued with the following equipment:

- Apple iPad - 32GB Wi-Fi 10.2-inch Retina Display (latest model)
- Protective case

To achieve these goals, we work in partnership with the Learning Foundation - an education-based charity - to operate a voluntary parental donation programme where no child is excluded on financial grounds.

The Learning Foundation collects donations, claiming Gift Aid wherever possible, and pays the funds to the school having deducted their small collection fee to support their charitable activities.

The school then uses this income to lease the programme iPads over a three-year period. The iPads are technically owned by the school until transfer of ownership takes place at the end of the programme.

The management of the programme portal, warranty, insurance, parent/carer help, advice and support are provided by Edutech Zone who work with Learning Foundation and provide all the support services that you may need over the three-year term of the programme.

### Throughout the programme:

- The iPad is provided for your child's personal use at the school and for homework.
- Parents make regular voluntary donations in line with the commitment made at the point of sign up.
- The iPad is covered by an extended warranty and insurance, providing a replacement iPad at no cost to parents for accidental damage or theft.
- In the unlikely event that an iPad is stolen, a Police Crime Reference number and name of the handling officer will be required to process the insurance claim.

- The school retains a small loan pool of iPads for the use of students within the programme whilst they await the return or replacement of their iPad following a warranty or insurance claim so that their learning is not disrupted.
- Each iPad issued will be fitted with a protective case.

## **Frequently asked questions**

### **What happens if my child leaves the school before the end of the programme?**

As the products are leased, you would return the iPad to the school and cancel your Learning Foundation donation. There is no option to purchase the iPad before the end of the programme.

### **What happens if I can't afford to be part of the programme?**

No child is excluded from our programme on financial grounds. If you cannot afford to make the voluntary donations, please **email:** [support@edutech.zone](mailto:support@edutech.zone) **tel:** 0203 051 8456 or complete the online parent support form [https://edutech.zone/parent\\_enquiries](https://edutech.zone/parent_enquiries) and one of the programme advisors will be able to assist you.

### **What about students who already own an iPad?**

Students who have their own iPad can use their own iPad providing the iPad meets the minimum specified requirement as set out on the programme portal (this is likely to change from year-to-year in response to technical advances).

- You accept that the school will take control of the iPad through the programme's iPad management software.
- You must agree to allow us to supervise your iPad; this means that the iPad will be erased of all contents and settings and managed via our systems. This means that your iPad must be physically touched and administered by Digital Services staff.
- Installation of the management software will entail the removal of all data and apps from the iPad. Therefore, parents are required to take responsibility for removing any data and apps from the iPad before handing it in. The school will take no responsibility for any data lost in this process.
- A one-off payment of £25.00 is required as a contribution to the school's costs in managing the iPads and apps to students. This fee includes the use of school purchased apps throughout the lifetime of the student iPad.

By choosing not to be part of the programme, you undertake to bear full responsibility for ensuring your child always has a fully functioning iPad. This entails timely repair and replacement as required. By choosing not to be part of the programme, your child will not be able to borrow a school iPad if their iPad is out of action.

### **What if my child doesn't join the school at the start of Year 7?**

In most instances, you will take over an iPad from a child that has left, and you will be asked to make voluntary donations from the point of joining to the end of the programme. In exceptional circumstances, this may not be possible and in which case we will contact you to discuss the options available to you.