Frequently Asked Questions

Why iPad?
We are using the iPad for a range of reasons: the inbuilt accessibility, parental controls, the large range of apps, digital books and the intuitive interface all make the iPad an easy learning tool to implement into the classroom teaching and learning program with minimal technical support. Since iPads were first introduced at Kew Primary in 2012 the staff have become very knowledgeable and proficient with these devices. There is a wide range of expertise across the whole school and each year staff continue to further refine their teaching and learning with iPads.

How will the iPad be used? What classes will use the iPad?
The iPads will be used as and when they are appropriate to use them within the curriculum. Some recent examples include:

- Students in the Senior School, created QR codes, linked to voice recordings that explained an historical event or individual as part of their History Inquiry. Staff, students and parents listened to these recordings through their own iPad or smartphone.
- Students are able to illustrate their thinking and around a particular topic or concept through mind mapping apps such Explain Everything or Simpleminds.
- Students create audio and visual recordings through iMovie or the native camera app, providing an avenue for students to showcase their learning.
- With quick and easy access to software such as Google Translate, students can use the iPad to assist them in French.
- Students have recorded each other practising a particular skill in PE, which is then viewed by their peers, for them to provide critical feedback and advice.
- Students can access museum art galleries and easily access creative and inspiring medium in art.

How much time will the students spend on the iPad at school each day?
We encourage you to look at the iPad as a learning tool. It is comparable to a calculator, pen and paper, art supplies, pencil case, diary and worksheets. Therefore we cannot put a specific time to the use of iPads over the school day. They will be expected to be used as and where they fit in with the students learning schedule. However, students will not be on their iPad all day, every day. There will learning in the classroom that does not require the iPad or other forms of ICT. We recognise the need to provide a balanced multi-medium approach to our teaching and learning in order to cater to all learning needs of our students.
Are there other schools that have iPads?
Yes, there are a variety of schools that have implemented iPads in their learning with great success. Here are some examples:

Redlands College iPad Program - https://ipad.redlands.qld.edu.au/


Does my child have to take the iPad home every night?
Yes this is true 24/7 learning. We encourage iPads to go home with the students so that they can undertake home learning and to work with you on their learning activities. If you do not feel comfortable with this approach, please discuss your concerns with the class teacher.

What if my child loses/ accidentally breaks the iPad?
We expect all reasonable care is taken on the use of the iPads. Please use protective covers. Please ensure no stickers, or other markings are put onto the iPad. If the iPad has been stolen, please ensure a police report is filed with the school. If the iPad is lost or broken, please ensure you give a detailed description of what occurred to the class teacher so that this can be reviewed and steps can be taken to try and prevent a repeat occurrence.

Why do I have to create an Apple ID?
One of the unique things about iPad is the way software is sold. Most apps are very inexpensive, and many are free, and the App Store is focused on personal ownership rather than school ownership of apps. An Apple ID is used to track an individual’s app licenses, but to protect the privacy of children Apple does not record personal information about persons under 13 years old. We ask that you create and manage an Apple ID on behalf of your child so that they can use apps in compliance with the App Store terms and conditions.

Do I need to link my credit card to the Apple ID we have to create?
No, you can set up a Apple ID without setting up a credit card or gift card against the account. We have instructions on how to do this Please refer to “Creating an Apple ID without a credit card.

What happens to the apps/iTunes account?
The Apple ID you have created for your child remains with them. Any apps that have been allocated to that account through gifting, redemption codes, free app downloads or purchases you have made on their behalf stay with the associated account, and therefore your child. Once your child turns 13, you have the option of transferring control of that account for them to manage.

Steps to connect the iPad to the school network
- Teachers will provide a level appropriate ICT user agreement to each child in their class. Time will be spent discussing and explaining this document
Both the child and parent(s) sign the ICT user agreement that is provided by the class teacher.

Return this document to your child’s class teacher

Our technician will connect your child’s iPad to our school network. This may take several weeks, as he needs to connect each iPad separately.

Practical tips for parents
The following guidance is to provide you with some information that will allow you as a parent to share in this experience with your child and also help you create a managed and safe environment so your child can enjoy and learn from the Internet safely and securely.

Share the Experience
- Ask your children to demonstrate the way they use their iPad for school. This will also give you a better understanding of when the child is using the iPad for learning activities vs. entertainment.

- Ask your child to teach you how to use the iPad.
- Have a play with the iPad and apps by yourself to better understand how they work.
- Focus on the positive aspects of the Internet when you sharing the experience with your child. Spend time looking together at sites that are fun, interesting or educational.
- Encourage your child to question things on the Internet, e.g. “Who is in charge of this site?”, “Have I found information, or is it just opinion?” or “Is this site trying to influence me or sell me something?”

Set Boundaries
- Students don’t need to use the iPad all the time at home.
- To better control the use of the iPad at home, you could specify:
  - Where in the house the iPad can be used.
  - Where it is to be stored when not in use.
  - charge the iPad in a space away from the bedrooms.

Monitor
- Talk about Internet activities openly and freely.
- Have your child use the iPad in a shared family area where you can monitor how long your child is online as well as the websites your child is visiting.
- Mobile phones and other digital devices have access the Internet, so these devices need to be monitored also.

Protect
- Explain to your child that not all information on the Internet is good, true or helpful, and that some areas are not intended for children to see.
- Help your child identify unsuitable material by naming some things to look out for, such as sites that contain scary or rude pictures, swearing or angry words.
- Empower your child to use the Internet safely by showing your child safe sites and explaining why they are safe. It’s also important to educate your child on why it’s not safe to give out any personal details online.
- Use a free internet filter, such as OpenDNS which provides parents a way to secure their internet connection and prevent access to restricted web sites. The advantage for parents is that this can be applied to ALL devices in the home. More information and set-up can be found at: OpenDNS

**Parental Controls**
- Parental controls are available on the iPad. However, please be very careful when using this feature as excessive controls can block essential iPad features that will be needed at school.
- Also, If you forget the password, the device may need to be wiped and reset to factory settings.
We encourage a policy of educating vs. controlling. It is much better for the child to learn what appropriate and safe Internet usage is.

**Report**
- If you have found any material online that you believe is prohibited or inappropriate you should contact the ACMA. For further information go to ACMA’s website www.acma.gov.au where a range of resources are available for parents and caregivers.
- thinkuknow.org provides information and facilities to help you report inappropriate, harmful or criminal activities that occur online or via a mobile device. http://www.thinkuknow.org.au/site/report.asp