What will the iPads be used for in class?

Initially, we do not anticipate massive changes – all children currently access laptops/netbooks in class – this same work will continue but using the iPad. The iPads will be used to enhance and support learning. This might be through children accessing Sumdog or SpellingFrame or it could be through them accessing assistive technologies – e.g. audiobooks or voice to text. The degree to which children will access assistive technologies will depend on their abilities and needs. There will not be a one size fits all approach. The children will continue to make use of GLOW and Teams using their iPad and there will be increased opportunities for them to share learning with you at home – this will evolve over time and may include use of the Showbie App although at this point we are planning to work to a consistent use of Teams across our schools and with the other schools in the Madras Cluster. We will be teaching the children to profile their achievements using the My World of Work tool – this will help them evidence and understand their learning and the skills they are developing.

I am already worried about my child's screentime. I don't want them to have more screen time in school.

The screen time your child will have in school will be productive screen time. We will not be using the devices all day – only when to do so will enhance or support learning. If you are concerned about your child's screen time at home, please come to us and we can sign post you to resources that can help.

I am worried that my child will say this is 'their iPad' and I can't stop them using it.

The expectation from school – which will be shared with children – is that you will continue to be in control of their device use at home. You can use Jamf Parent to control the iPad and restrict the apps your child can use or to restrict their use at all. We fully support parents enforcing times of day when no screens are used – we suggest meal times and after 8pm but this is, of course, parental choice. The apps that can be downloaded and used are heavily restricted – your child will not be able to use social media or messaging or gaming apps on their iPad. Click here for a guide to using Jamf Parent: Book Creator | A Guide to Jamf Parent

I am worried about safeguarding – what if children take and upload inappropriate photos or videos to the internet?

There will be firm rules in place around where iPads are used in school – they will only be allowed in the classroom, children will not be able to take them out at playtime or use them in the cloakrooms or at other less supervised times. The teacher will be able to use Jamf Teacher to restrict access to cameras and our usual safe internet work will continue. Out of school we expect parents to monitor their child's device use and ensure it is safe just as they do with their child's current devices.

How much time per day will children spend on the iPad at school?

It will depend on the lessons planned for the day. The iPad is a tool to be used in class to support and enhance learning in the same way we currently use laptops and netbooks.

What will be the expectation of using the iPad at home?

We do not have any intention of changing current homework practices. Your child will be able to access SpellingFrame and Sumdog using their iPad.

How will handwriting and other non-digital skills be maintained alongside iPad use? The teachers will continue to plan learning for their class to ensure they are supported and

challenged in all areas of the curriculum.

Which subjects or skills will be most affected, and how will progress be tracked?

The iPads will be used to support and enhance learning across the curriculum. Progress will be tracked using the current methods in place.

Will children who find digital learning difficult receive extra support?

Yes - in the context of their class.

Is there insurance for the devices, and what does it cover?

No. Your child is expected to be responsible in looking after their device – to keep it safe and not lose parts. They should keep their charger safely at home and ensure the device comes to school fully charged each day. They should not remove the iPad from the case and they should keep it somewhere safe at home. In school, there will be firm rules around where iPads are kept to avoid loss or accidental damage. Parents will be asked for a contribution towards the replacement of lost or damaged items – this is being applied consistently across all Fife Council schools and the costs are laid out here: Repair/Replacement Costs – Transforming Learning in Fife As long as children treat their iPad with respect, it is very unlikely that damage or loss will occur.

How will the school measure whether this project is improving learning outcomes?

The measures of success of this project are laid out in the School Improvement Plan (available on the school website) and we will also be measuring success through our usual tracking and monitoring processes.

Will parents and children have opportunities to give feedback during the rollout?

Yes – this is laid out in the School Improvement Plan. Please take the opportunity to submit feedback by completing surveys and attending events.

Why is the school spending money on this alongside carrying out fundraising?

The school is not buying the iPads – this is a Fife Council wide project happening in all schools and being rolled out over five years. It is being paid for from a central budget and does not impact on our spending on PSA hours or resources.

The above are all questions which have been asked by parents at Balmerino and Wormit through feedback questionnaires and at the parental session on Teams. You may be interested to read the FAQs compiled by Fife Council as well: Frequently Asked Questions - Transforming Learning in Fife