



Why do you use iPad in your school?

iPad helps with teaching and learning at our school because we see iPad as a tool for learning; you can use it to learn across the whole curriculum. So in a sense, this question is a bit like asking how does a paper and pencil help with learning, or how do tables and chairs help with learning? It's something that's foundational, that can be used in lots of different ways. But what we've done is we've tried to articulate ways that we feel like technology can particularly help with learning.

And so we've divided those into three areas. The first area is that we think good learning is experiential, and we found that using an iPad helps our learning be more practical and hands on that children can remember and understand by doing things and getting involved with their hands.

So it might be the fact that you can use a camera, that you can capture those practical experiences, perhaps that's role play, perhaps that's a science experiment. It's got that value put on it because you can capture it on the iPad. For example, in maths, you might have an app that is like a manipulative so you can move your counters around a screen but the fact it is practical and hands on lets children develop that understanding through moving things around digitally, but it's still doing something physical.

The second way that we think iPad really helps with learning, is it makes learning more collaborative that as children work together to make things, that helps them apply what they know and helps them really understand it in a deeper way. So, maybe that's in making a movie because children have got to actually all work together or maybe it's in a digital book that they collect together all their learning into one space. And we really feel that helps children show what they know.

And the third way that the iPad really helps is that it can allow students to be more reflective of their learning so they can think about how did I learn that? What was easy? What could I do differently next time? We use an app called Showbie to manage all our digital learning and there are loads of great tools that make it so easy for a student to just write a short comment, answering a quick question or record a voice note or annotate or draw on something and it just allows those reflective moments to just happen really quickly and easily at different parts in the lesson.