Birkdale South State School

x-Pad Program Handbook

Achievement Through Effort
x-Pad Program

Foreword

This handbook has been compiled to provide a ready source of information for parents and students about matters influencing the efficient running of the x-Pad program. Each student should be thoroughly conversant with its contents and follow all guidelines. This handbook is subject to change.

Introduction

Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) have a critical role in enhancing the learning process at all levels and across a broad range of activities in each of the National Curriculum subject areas. Through the use of ICTs in the curriculum, we are helping students become knowledgeable about the nature of information, comfortable with the technology and able to exploit its potential. The overall philosophy is to use ICT whenever its speed, power, graphics or interactive potential can enhance and extend the quality of work being undertaken by students. It is used to develop logical thinking, problem solving and control techniques and also to give confidence and the capability to use ICTs in later life.

Our main goal is to equip and empower students, rather than merely transferring knowledge - guiding students in learning to learn. We believe students are eager to learn and with guidance they will seek out and discover knowledge on their own.

In the x-Pad program we aim to establish an environment and a relationship with children where they can feel safe, comfortable and are able to be encouraged to push themselves to the best of their abilities in all learning areas.

Learning at BSSS

We operate under and are committed to the principles of Birkdale South State School. As members of the Birkdale South State School community, we make a special effort to be safe, respectful, responsible and cooperative learners. We also value the following expectations.

(1) Regularly wearing the correct school uniform
(2) Always completing set homework on time
(3) Always trying your hardest (effort)
(4) Always participating and having a go!
(5) Respecting the rights of self and others (behaviour)
(6) Neat bookwork (Showing pride in your learning)
(7) Regularly using good manners at school
(8) Regularly attending school on time ready to learn.
Our Vision

Our school is committed to fostering a culture of high performance in teaching and learning that values and promotes leadership, attracts high quality educators and seeks to set the agenda in an environment with high community capital and well developed partnership links to local industry, university research based methodology and community organisations.

Our Values

• Consistently provide stimulating learning experiences that engage all students in a professional culture that promotes life-long learning and reflective practice.

• Shared belief in building key partnerships and leveraging strengths and opportunities to spread the sphere of influence and impact.

• Continual reiteration of the importance of high quality work and the vital role of one and all in our success as a school.

• Allegiance to our core business of student learning and continually improving student learning outcomes.

OUR DECLARATION

Through innovation, creativity and a futures orientation, we are the community of tomorrow.

OUR PURPOSE

Birkdale South State School exists to provide a learning environment where each student is able to achieve their potential supported by skilled, compassionate and professional staff in a community where the values of confidence, cooperation, courtesy, consideration, conscientiousness, and courage are the core principles.

Our School Motto

"Achievement Through Effort"

Our motto encourages each member of our school community to be proud of our school and everything we do.
Parent Information

In an effort to provide our students with access to e-learning devices, we have devised the x-Pad Program (XPP). This program gives your child the ability to access i-Pad Minis more readily in their classroom. Instead of sharing the limited resources that the school is able to provide immediately, your child will have an i-Pad or set of i-Pads available in order to meet their needs. Currently, the school has provided each class with one i-Pad. All children can access this i-Pad for educational purposes. It is our intention to continue providing classes with increasing numbers of i-Pads into the future. However, due to financial constraints this is a slow and methodical process. To increase the number of i-Pads available to XPP students we have developed this transition program to enhance student learning.

How does this work?
You will have the opportunity to indicate your commitment to this program by paying a $40 yearly subscription. This fee allows your child to access i-Pads on a 4:1 basis. This means that for every 4 students in your child’s class who subscribe to the program, 1 additional i-Pad will be given to your child’s classroom teacher. If 5-8 students subscribe, your child’s class has qualified for 2 additional i-Pads. The XPP students are then able to share those i-Pads.

What about security?
The misuse of the devices including malicious or irresponsible actions will be linked to our Behaviour Management Policy.

What about equity?
Not every family will be willing or able to participate in this program. XPP students will not only have access to the x-Pads, but they will also have access to the regular classroom resources. Every child will be able to access the regular classroom resources that we continue to provide to the classes however the XPP devices will be only for XPP subscribers. The x-Pads are purely ‘Extra i-Pads’.

No child will be educationally disadvantaged in this program.

How does your contribution help your child?
- The shared use of an additional i-Pad Mini
- i-Pads (including purchase of apps) are managed and maintained by the school
- Losses due to accidental damage are covered; no insurance necessary
- Technical support to the school
- Online subscriptions
- Allows for personalised learning
- Improved student learning outcomes
- Improved collaboration
- Give students’ greater choice and more independence
- It creates a model for lifelong learning
x-Pad Acceptable Use Policy

This document defines the Responsible Use Policy for student use of i-Pads as part of the Birkdale South State School x-Pad Program. Its main purpose is to encourage the acceptable and responsible use of the facilities available to the students through the provision of clear usage guidelines. Students authorised to use the school’s computer systems also have Internet and Electronic Mail access.

The x-Pad program is designed to help students keep up with the demands of the 21st century. Helping students become responsible digital citizens will enhance not only what we do in the classroom, but also give students skills and experiences that will prepare them for their future studies and career.

**Birkdale South State School deems the following to be responsible use and behaviour by a student:**

**It is expected that students will use school resources and network infrastructure for:**

- assigned class work and assignments set by teachers;
- developing appropriate literacy, communication and information skills;
- authoring text, artwork, audio and visual material for publication on the Intranet or Internet for educational purposes as supervised and approved by the school;
- conducting general research for school activities and projects;
- communicating or collaborating with other students, teachers, parents or experts in relation to school work;
- accessing online references such as dictionaries, encyclopaedias, etc.
- researching and learning through the Department’s e-learning environment.
Birkdale South State School deems the following to be unacceptable use and behaviour by a student:

It is unacceptable for students to:

- use the IT resources in an unlawful manner
- download, distribute or publish offensive messages or pictures;
- cyber-bully, insult, harass or attack others or use obscene or abusive language;
- deliberately waste printing and Internet resources;
- damage any electronic devices, printers or the network equipment;
- commit plagiarism or violate copyright laws; (e.g. use of illegally downloaded games and music, and illegal sharing of games and music)
- use unsupervised internet chat;
- send chain letters or Spam e-mail (junk mail)
- access 3G/4G networks on school premises
- knowingly download viruses or any other programs capable of breaching the Department’s networks security.
- handle devices frivolously or irresponsibly causing damage or loss of equipment
- handle and use devices without teacher authorisation or in a manner that would not be approved of by a teacher.

In addition to this Birkdale South State School states that:

- Information dispatched from the school network is a reflection on how the global community perceives the school. All students using the systems are encouraged to show that they are positive ambassadors for Birkdale South State School. No obscene, inflammatory, racist, discriminatory or derogatory language should be used in electronic mail or any other form of network communication.

- Students using the system must not at any time attempt to access other computer systems, accounts or unauthorised network drives or files or to access other people’s devices without their permission and without them present.

- Students must not record, photograph or film any students or school personnel without the express permission of the supervising teacher. Identifying images, audio content and personal information must not leave the school (this information may be saved on the school server only).

- Students must get teacher permission before copying files from another user. Copying files belonging to another user without express permission may constitute plagiarism and/or theft.
• Students will not copy software, information, graphics, or other data files that may violate copyright laws without warning and be subject to prosecution from agencies to enforce such copyrights.

• Use of x-Pads, are at the complete discretion of the teacher. The curriculum content and time management of resources in this program are organised and overseen by the teachers in accordance with the designated curriculum program.

• The school will educate students regarding cyber bullying, privacy considerations, safe Internet and email practices and health and safety regarding the physical use of electronic devices. Students have a responsibility to behave in line with these safe practices.

• I-Pads must have a protective case at all times.

  **This agreement is binding and is linked to our Behaviour Management Plan. Failure to adhere to the agreement may lead to suspension of the program for the student or removal from the program.**