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Dear Parent/Carer

1:1 Devices in S1, August 2024

We are writing to inform you that from August 2024, Breadalbane Academy will be involved in a '1-1 Devices' trial over the course of session 2024-2025, which will involve all S1 pupils being provided with an individual *ipad* device. This trial is fully supported by Perth & Kinross Council and we have devised the following FAQs in an effort to address some of the questions which parents /carers, pupils or staff may have.

Frequently Asked Questions

• Why are we doing this?

The aim of the project is to explore on a small scale the impact that individual devices can have on effective learning and teaching. There is no doubt that education is going to draw increasingly on digital hardware and software over the coming decades, and Perth and Kinross is keen to keep ahead of the curve in this respect. As one of the first Perth and Kinross schools to receive the 'Digital Schools Award', Breadalbane Academy was considered well placed to lead on this development, alongside our colleagues in Pitlochry High School who will also be taking part in the trial.

<u>The Future of Jobs Report 2023 | World Economic Forum (weforum.org)</u> – this link explores how jobs and skills will evolve over the next 5 years. Learners need to be provided with the skills which they will require in the future world of work.

• What happens at the end of the trial?

Working alongside colleagues from PKC the school will evaluate the impact of the project and report back to all relevant stakeholders.

• How will we measure the impact of this project?

The following are some of the ways in which we will aim to measure impact:

- Rate of progress against Curriculum for Excellence levels and 'progress within a level' descriptors
- Progress against baseline survey of pupil-reported confidence in use of a range of digital skills
- Progress against baseline survey of staff-reported confidence in use of a range of digital skills
- Use of observations to measure pupil confidence and increased responsibly for independent learning
- Pupil questionnaires to monitor digital skills development and engagement in learning













• How can the school sustain and roll-out a 1-1 approach if the pilot is deemed successful?

As this trial progresses, the impact on learning will be closely monitored. The Scottish Government previously indicated they would fund a device for every learner. However, the language and intention around this promise has been softened. Nevertheless, Perth and Kinross Council are continuing to plan how device access and allocation can be widened for our children and young people. This pilot will help inform these plans and any future roll out. Breadalbane Academy and Pitlochry High School will receive additional digital support from our PKC central teams during the period of this trial to help upskill our children, young people and staff.

• Will young people be allowed to take devices home?

Initially young people will use their *ipads* in class and school only. However, over time and as the trial progresses and young people, staff and parents/carers become familiar and confident then these devices will be taken home and used to support home learning as well as learning in school.

• Will these devices be used in all lessons?

No – not for the duration of the pilot, though this might be rolled out over time. For the purposes of the pilot, the school will identify departments where there are both clear practical applications for the devices and a good existing level of staff expertise. The list of all departments that will be involved has not yet been finalised but it is likely to include Social Subjects, Technical and Modern Languages, amongst others.

• How will the devices be used in lessons?

The focus of the devices will be to support accessibility via the suite of tools *ipads* facilitate and provide. Learners will be able to personalise their devices and this will enable them to use coloured overlays and other features to support their own learning needs. Learners will also be upskilled in Digital Literacy through Apple Apps such as Pages, iMovie, Keynote and Microsoft apps. This will ensure continuity between the tools they may use already like OneNote and MS Teams. There will also be the opportunity to enhance learning experiences across different subjects, for example:

- Recording speaking assessments in Modern Languages
- Accessing design software in Technical and other relevant software for subject areas
- Online research
- Self and peer assessment recording aspects of performance or practical activities for later review and evaluation
- Developing digital skills to support with additional support needs, e.g. immersive reader; electronic overlays etc.

We look forward to taking part in this trial and anticipate positive impacts on digital skills development, engagement and progress in learning. We will write to parent / carers again in August as the devices are issued to learners. Please do not hesitate to contact school on <u>Breadalbane@pkc.gov.uk</u> if you require any further information.

Yours faithfully

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Lorna Libreri DHT School Improvement