

## 61458 Empowered Learning iPad (Gen 11 A16) Deployment

Please provide information relating to the procurement, deployment, and evaluation of iPad Gen 11 (A16) devices issued under the Empowered Learning programme in early 2026.

### **Procurement and decision-making**

Copies of any business cases, options appraisals, or decision papers relating to the selection of iPad Gen 11 (A16) devices.

The early 2026 procurement of iPads was part of a wider replacement within our existing Empowered Learning programme which utilises iPads. The iPads were a like-for-like replacement.

Any documentation comparing alternative devices (e.g. laptops, Chromebooks, or other tablet models)

This procurement was a like-for-like replacement of devices within Empowered Learning.

The criteria used to select the device (e.g. cost, durability, educational suitability)

The early 2026 procurement of iPads was a like-for-like replacement of devices used within the existing Empowered Learning programme.

### **Cost and funding**

Total cost of the Gen 11 (A16) device procurement.

£2,194,827.02.

Cost per device, including accessories, warranties, and management software.

Ongoing annual costs associated with the devices (e.g. licensing, repairs, replacements)

These costs shall not be provided as we consider this to be commercially sensitive information.

Funding source(s) used for this procurement.

Core Council Revenue Funding.

### **Deployment and timing**

Rationale for the timing of deployment, specifically distribution in the period immediately prior to the Easter break 2026.

During 2026 we are replacing a volume of iPads. Secondary Sector Head Teachers made representation requesting deployment be considered early to maximise benefit for the upcoming Qualification Scotland (previously SQA) examination period.

Any internal planning documents or guidance relating to rollout timing.

Schools received information relating to their delivery dates and times along with information to support the deployment.

Further details of support information shall not be provided as it contains details relating to existing inventory and security sensitive management information.

Whether staff training was delivered before or after device distribution.

Staff and students have been using iPads for several years. The early 2026 deployment was a like-for-like replacement. Staff and students continue to access their appropriate support materials and professional development opportunities as required.

### **Usage and impact**

Any internal reports, evaluations, or assessments of the impact of the devices on learning, engagement, or attainment.

Please follow the links provided below for relevant published information.

[Edinburgh Learns Digital Strategy – Edinburgh Learns Digital | City of Edinburgh Council](#)

<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s77089/Item%207.7%20-%20Empowered%20Learning%20Thematic%20Review%20and%20Edinburgh%20Learns%20Digital%20Strategy.pdf>

[8.2 Empowered Learning Thematic Review and Edinburgh Learns Digital Strategy - Update.pdf](#)

Any metrics used to measure effectiveness of the rollout.

These are detailed in the thematic review referenced above.

### **Safeguarding and data**

Details of data collected via device management systems.

Policies governing access to this data and retention periods.

Please refer to the Education Privacy Notice published on our website at:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/privacy-notices/education-privacy-notice>

### **Device loss, damage, and maintenance**

Number of devices reported lost, stolen, or damaged since deployment.

Since the early 2026 deployment, there have been no formal reports of loss/ theft or breakage.

Associated repair or replacement costs.

Such costs shall not be provided as we consider this to be commercially sensitive information.

Expected vs actual device lifespan (if available).

Information available from Apple regarding device lifespan and support arrangements informs device replacement planning.

### **Internal correspondence (targeted)**

Copies of internal correspondence (including emails) between 1 January 2026 and 30 April 2026 relating to:

- the selection of iPad Gen 11 (A16) devices
- the timing of deployment
- any identified risks, concerns, or issues raised regarding the rollout

Regarding the selection, the early 2026 deployment was a 'business as usual', like-for-like replacement of devices currently used within Empowered Learning. Empowered Learning utilises iPads.

Regarding the timing, representation was made by Head Teachers at the Digital Learning Board meeting February 2026 requesting that in order to maximise benefit, the exam diet be considered in the earlier stages of the 2026 replacement programme and prior to the start of the Qualifications Scotland exam diet. Following discussion, it was agreed and actions were progressed.

Regarding risks, concerns, or issues raised, it was noted that deliveries must be planned to conclude Friday 27<sup>th</sup> to provide Secondary Schools time to facilitate the in-school activities. All deliveries were made within the designated time period and completed Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March.