

Since 2001, the Birmingham e-Learning Foundation has worked tirelessly with Birmingham's schools to enhance pupils' educational attainment. Its focus has been to help provide computers, netbooks and now the very latest iPads as well as home broadband connectivity. To date over 35,000 pupils at 45 schools in Birmingham have been supported through various programmes. BeLF is dedicated to working with schools, parents and other partners in providing personal learning devices for ALL pupils in Birmingham. Having their own personal learning device to support their classwork motivates and raises pupils' aspirations no matter what their circumstances.

BeLF

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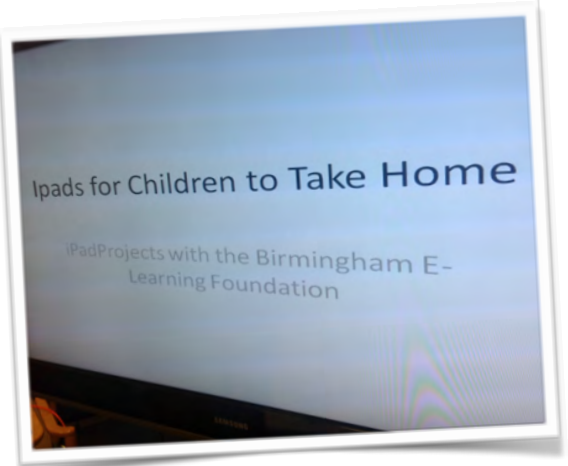
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BeLF works in partnership with schools, parents and pupils. Success is achieved by working together.

- BeLF is a Charity, working in partnership with schools, parents and sponsors so that ALL pupils have access to the latest technologies both at home and at school.

- Giving home learning support to ALL PUPILS to raise their aspirations no matter what their circumstances because having their own personal home learning devices to support their education motivates and leads to achievement, so **DON'T BE LEFT BEHIND**

BeLF's programme is based on two key principles:

1. Sustainability – a sustainable programme is one that will have enough funding to include all pupils in the chosen year groups both now and in the future.
2. Inclusivity – the programme includes all children in the year groups selected and we also encourage their families to use the computer at home, thereby extending the benefits into the community.

We start by meeting with schools to help review their use of technology-based teaching and learning, and explore whether there is a desire and commitment to provide 1:1 access to computers for their pupils.

Schools now have access to a number of technology-based learning resources and content. Our projects allow the students access to their learning resources both in the school and at home.

For the last three years we have guided, and sponsored a number of Primary iPad projects.



Ruth Garner is our contact for Primaries

Success is in the improved results in Literacy and Numeracy, and ongoing Parental Involvement.

Teachers' views:

- Children's engagement and motivation to learn seems to have been enhanced
- Children are developing multi-modal forms of literacy – the blending of sound, pictures and text (and even voice) in an integrative way to communicate meaning
- New patterns and practice of homework seem to be emerging
- Parents seem to be more directly engaged in their children's education

"... priming [children's] motivation and also their creativity in terms of wanting to do things, wanting to share work... wanting to kind of have, a profile in the classroom... just in terms of what are very young children to start and go off and do their own research, formulate their own frameworks about what they need to find out... that is quite impressive!" [Teacher]





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ASTON UNIVERSITY ENGINEERING ACADEMY

AUEA is not only a state of the art building, but also a state of the art IT and eLearning facility. Part of this is the provision to allow students to use their own personal learning devices within the Academy, which research has shown improves student outcomes, engagement and learning opportunities for students.

WHY IPADS?

When the iPad came along it not only revolutionised the computer market, but also the way that learning can work in schools. With easy web access, learning, and revision specific apps, plus integration into schools tracking and information systems, the iPad is a ideal learning device.

At AUEA students will be able to: track their academic and learning progress; access their My Learning Space, email, and timetable; as well as receive and complete their independent study. AUEA also is equipped with a state of the art media system which also will allow students to access learning videos and resources through their iPad.

BIRMINGHAM eLEARNING FOUNDATION

For over 10 years BELF have been working in partnership with schools, parents and sponsors so that ALL pupils have access to learning technologies both at home and at school regardless of their background. The result is over 35,000 personal learning devices to pupils in over 45 schools in Birmingham

AUEA in partnership with BELF are excited to announce the proposal of an innovative

iPad scheme for all students at AUEA. For details on other Birmingham projects please see:
<http://www.belf.org.uk/ipad-launch/>

HOW IT WORKS?

If parents /carers sign up for the scheme, your child will be equipped with an iPad for use at home and at AUEA. Parents then make a monthly donation to the eLearning foundation over two years.

The cost benefit to parents and students is that you get access to our educational rates for iPads, which normally retail at £350-£400 and also are able to spread donations over two years.

The table below shows our proposed monthly donation.

Proposed donation £14 per Month	If all parents/students are able to donate the £14 per month (£2.80per week) – the scheme will be completely cost neutral.
£12/10 per Month	If parents/students donate £12/£10 per month (£2.40/£2 per week) the scheme will run at a loss. This will mean that AUEA will have to subsidise the scheme, which means that this will reduce resources for your child at AUEA.

BELF
Birmingham eLearning Foundation

We help establish successful and sustainable programmes through:

- o Independent advice, information and support, backed by a wide range of support materials, templates, etc.
- o Ensuring schemes fit into the sustainable donation/grant loop; handling the collection of parental donations through our Donorflex system; handling parents’ financial queries; and helping schools assess whether outright purchase or leasing or is best for them. We help build the funding case for the 1:1 schemes from the mix of available funding streams – including where appropriate, a degree of school funds like Pupil Premium.

Last year, all of this came together at AUEA – Aston University Engineering Academy. We now have a showcase where a large number of iPads were leased by the school to provide whole-school 1:1 student provision, and the parental donations that we receive from a large group of supportive parents effectively provide the funding to meet the leasing payments. More important than the financial balance though is the presence of a group of motivated 14-19 students impressively demonstrating the potential of a 1:1 scheme on a daily basis. Our message to other secondary schools is that this success is scalable and replicable.



BeLF A conference feed.... Staff and Pupils at Aston University Engineering Academy took us through their top 10 Apps voted for by students. All students have an iPad and they have a great system for identifying when and where they can use these - Green, Amber and Red zones mark out areas that are 'go' or 'no-go' for iPads. A tip worth picking up in other schools!



Feb 26 4:19 PM

2 people