St John the Baptist School

Woking, Surrey

Today

SJB is an outstanding and innovative school. We continually strive to ensure all students have the best access to learning, to support them in realising their potential, ensuring equal opportunities for all. We encourage independent learning and equip students with 21st century skills. iPad devices are integral to achieving this. At SJB we relentlessly chase perfection, hoping that en-route we will demonstrate excellence. We work hard to create an inclusive, broad and rich curriculum, that extends beyond the classroom. We know that technology can have a profound effect on a child's learning. Advances in technology mean that we are at the dawn of a new age, where students can collaborate, investigate and explore like never before





👁 Vision

We've seamlessly integrated technology within our pedagogy and practice across the school. Our school community fosters a culture of innovation that strives to instil a love of learning. To prepare our students for their future, we must ensure that they are digitally literate so that they will develop the 21st century skills required to be successful in life. At SJB, digital learning isn't a gimmick; it's rooted within the school itself, a vital part of our vision for learning. Our mission to integrate technology within learning does not stop at SJB. Through the Xavier Trust we up-skill staff cross-phase with technology. Digital champions at SJB leverage their talents by supporting primary schools to develop their use of technology.



Demographics



1430 students

18 faculties

Comprehensive

Xavier Catholic Education Trust

Year 7 to Year 13 (11-18 years old)



Apple products and services

Students and teachers are equipped with an iPad.

'iPad for all' scheme introduced in 2013

Ensuring equity for all students

APPLE AMBASSADORS

Students who are recommended by their head of year and apply to be the ambassadors for their year group.

DIGITAL LEARNING & LEADERSHIP

PROGRAM

This program facilitates succession planning, empowers staff to collaborate and take ownership of digital learning in their departments.



🗢 Learning

We use technology to our advantage, leveraging it to enable students to visualise abstract concepts, grasp them more easily, and deepen their fluency of a topic. Furthermore, iPad devices give our students an opportunity to personalise their learning and develop their creativity (demonstrated in the video linked above). Our Apple teachers collaboratively devised a wheel of core apps that are central to digital learning. All stakeholders were consulted to ensure that the apps included are utilised regularly. We are committed to ensuring that our selected apps remain streamlined, and are only included after rigorous consideration of the impact it will have in the classroom. The core app wheel is reviewed annually and evolves with the changing technological landscape and student profile. We are committed to investing and creating apps and portals to aid metacognition and self-regulation, and transition. Our IT team have created a 'learning tools app' which is widely loved, a tool created to support whole class assessment for learning. We've designed revision and home learning portals, and utilised our YouTube accounts to further cement students' metacognition and aid learning. To remain confident with the technology, we offer tutorials providing bespoke staff support and specialist training. The emphasis of the digital learning and leadership programme is to leverage staff strengths, draw on their expertise, consequently, improving collective efficacy within staff, thereby serving the children better.



Success

At SJB we evolve with our students and their learning landscape. Student voice is integral to this, as such we regularly consult our students, polling their opinions. One medium is through our student Apple Ambassadors who offer feedback through focus groups. These are used in a number of our collaborative learning teams, research projects and teachers' digital learning based enquiry questions on their masters project. Whole school feedback is fundamental for 'checking the pulse' on whole school success – we primarily use online quizzes and polls to achieve this. Results are fed back to staff in a variety of ways. This self-evaluation process informs the next steps in the development of learning and teaching at SJB.

What's next

We have recently implemented Sora, a transformative and personalised e-library app to focus and improve our students' literacy and vocabulary. It enables students to access an array of texts with ease on an iPad. Barriers to learning are broken down with an iPad, improving student literacy, making learning accessible and support quality first teaching. As seen in the video below, our Learning Support Department are keen to utilise what they have learnt from Apple regarding the vast array of accessibility features.

In order to progress towards achieving our vision for learning we must stay abreast of the latest evidence base whilst simultaneously embracing the feedback we have been given by Apple to support staff professional development.

Links

- Xavier MAT learning and teaching strategies
- SJB showcasing excellent use of iPad devices in lessons
- <u>SJB YouTube account (how to videos for staff and students)</u>
- Learning support assistant discussing the accessibility features