



## Learning Technologies Information Sheet

### 1. Device Name

#### What is it?

The **iPad** is a tablet computer designed and developed by Apple. It is marketed as a platform for experiencing audio and visual media such as books, periodicals, movies, music, and games, as well as web content. At about 700 grams, its size and weight are between the Smart phone and Laptop. The iPad runs its own applications called (Apps) as well as ones developed for the iPhone. Without modification, it will only run programs approved by Apple and distributed via its online store. Like iPhone and iPod Touch, the iPad is controlled by a multitouch display — a break from most previous tablet computers, which used a pressure-triggered stylus. The iPad uses Wi-Fi or a 3G mobile data connection to browse the Internet, load and stream media, and install software. The device is managed and synced by iTunes on a personal computer via USB cable.

#### Potential uses for Teaching and Learning:

- Annotate electronic periodicals and other research materials.
- Social and collaborative activities for example discursive podcasting.
- Delivering teaching content in a more intriguing/interactive way.
- Allows the user to interact with content in more personalised way.
- WIFI engagement during presentations within the classroom.
- Create object on the fly!

#### Pros and Cons

##### Pros

- Innovative accessibility Features.
- Intuitive interface.
- 1000s for free and fee based applications (apps).
- High resolution display.
- Portability.

##### Cons

- Cost £ 420 upwards (15/10/2010).
- Unable to run multiple applications at a time.
- Unable to play Flash based content.
- No USB port.

#### Accessibility

- Excellent voice over which is activated by the touching the screen
- Customisable display allows the user to set their own background and text combinations.
- The Zoom facility allows the user to zoom in on any application on any screen.
- Closed captioning is available through the iPad store this feature will allow subtitles to be applied to movies, podcasts etc.