



# XMA and Teesside University

The road to **Apple Distinguished School (ADS)** status and beyond.

Although the education landscape has shifted quite dramatically recently, Teesside University has always been resolute in advancing its educational standards, techniques and technologies.

Rather than conforming to existing expectations, the University wanted to create an optimised learning toolset for the 21st century as part of its Future Facing Learning (FFL) strategy.

As a result, Teesside University saw an opportunity to secure Apple Distinguished Schools (ADS) status, a recognised accreditation that would underpin their approach to delivering a distinctive learning experience, by providing students with the skills, knowledge and expertise to thrive in complex and uncertain times.

Office 365, delivered by iPad, provides students and educators with a powerful learning toolset to keep FFL on a successful path.

Strategic partnerships with XMA and Apple have also greatly helped Teesside University to become the first UK university to achieve Apple Distinguished Schools (ADS) status.

### Teesside University have deployed...



#### Students

**12,000** 'ready-to-go' iPads with protective cases over four years



#### Educators


**650** iPads

As a strong believer in advancing education techniques and standards, Apple created the **Apple Distinguished Schools (ADS) programme** to highlight centres of excellence and innovation at every level of education.

### The XMA Difference

As an Apple Authorised Education Specialist (AAES), XMA was well placed to assist Teesside University. Not only could XMA dependably supply the technology, year on year, but it could also provide comprehensive support and training to complement the capability and capacity that the University has built. This would allow Teesside University to fully integrate this education technology into its learning culture.





## Teesside University Moving forward with XMA



### Annual iPad deployments

Since 2018, XMA has deployed 12,000 'ready-to-go' iPads to Teesside University's eligible new students, together with appropriate accessories and a preinstalled app toolkit optimised for specific courses and personal accessibility needs. As 650 University staff also received similarly configured iPads, both groups are able to maximise their digital proficiency by supporting each other and learning together.

"Apple technology has empowered teaching staff to think differently."

**Professor Mark Simpson, Pro Vice-Chancellor  
(Learning and Teaching)**

iPads, paired with Office 365, have provided students with a customisable and optimisable 21st-century learning toolset. It's fair to say that achieving ADS and realising the benefits of the Future Facing Learning Initiative have been transformative for Teesside University, and adds a USP that attracts new students, and continues to retain and engage existing ones.

Securing ADS status depended on staying in step with emerging Apple technologies and working collaboratively with XMA's Apple Solution Team and Teesside's staff and students. Something only possible thanks to XMA's position as an Apple Authorised Education Specialist.

The university achieved ADS status in 2021, recognising it as one of the most innovative institutions for the implementation of Apple learning technology. XMA continues to support Teesside University with its Apple estate as the student population grows and course requirements evolve.

"Hopefully [this status] will help others easily identify Teesside as a beacon of best practice and a critical friend in supporting others to devise digitally driven transformation."

**Professor Mark Simpson, Pro Vice-Chancellor**

XMA has also assisted education establishments at all levels of education in their achievements in reaching ADS status, including St John Paul Primary School and Castlemilk High in Glasgow, St Cyres School in Penarth and Tynecastle High School in Edinburgh.



## Straightforward device deployment and management

Device deployment and management were simple and easy with Jamf Pro, a best-in-class Mobile Device Management (MDM) solution for iPadOS, iOS and MacOS. As a scalable, cloud-based management system, it has proven to be the right choice to manage the thousands of devices at Teesside University, when integrated with the university's IT and network infrastructure.

“By placing technology at the heart of the learning model, we have been able to transform the way we teach and the way our students learn.”

**Professor Mark Simpson, Pro Vice-Chancellor**

## Using iPad at Teesside University



### Campus induction

Even during the pandemic's lockdowns, students were able to access university resources and connect with their peers.



### Movie making

Using Apple Clips on iPad, media students created video content, helping them to reflect, retrieve, recap and revise in a fun and engaging way.



### Clinical learning

As an alternative to specialist facilities, Radiography students can conduct remote experiments using a simulation tool on iPad.



## Ongoing training and support

University IT Staff have access to XMA's HE Hub to purchase additional technology quickly online and XMA's on-site Service Desk for IT assistance and quick fixes. XMA work in partnership with Teesside's IT team to provide this service to iPad users. XMA also complements ongoing support through consultancy and training opportunities.

XMA worked with Teesside University to support the development of relevant, high-quality, and empowering training covering various applications and tools such as the Adobe suite. This resulted in a number of their educators achieving Apple Teacher status.



XMA are a supplier of Apple technology and services through the HEPCW National Framework Agreement. The framework agreement is built around the supply of products using Apple Native Operating Systems, Associated Accessories and Services.

**Find out more about XMA and Apple in Higher Education**



 Authorised Education Specialist

# Are you ready for some eXtraordinary thinking?

[www.xma.co.uk](http://www.xma.co.uk)

[info@xma.co.uk](mailto:info@xma.co.uk)



@WeareXMA



XMA-Ltd

Head Office – St Albans  
7 Handley Page Way  
Old Parkbury Lane  
Colney Street  
St Albans  
AL2 2DQ

Nottingham  
Wilford Industrial Estate  
Ruddington Lane  
Wilford  
Nottingham  
NG11 7EP

Glasgow  
Pavilion 2  
Junction 24 Business Park  
Helen St  
Glasgow  
G51 3AD

Our quality, information security, environmental and IT service management systems are certified by ISOQAR, a UKAS accredited certification body, which demonstrates that XMA have achieved internationally recognised standards across our services, and consistently meet or exceed customer's requirements.

Company Number: 2051703 (registered in England)  
VAT Registration Number: GB 371 8455 76



18657-QMS-001  
(Nottingham & St. Albans)



18657-QMS-001  
ottingham & St. Alban



18657-EMS-001  
ottingham & St. Alban



18657-ITT-002  
(Nottingham)