

Tablets help students in Gauteng

Schools in parts of Gauteng have improved the quality of education through the use of information and communication technology, such as iPads.



iPads and other tablet computer are transforming the way children learn at school. Image: Apple

It has been just over three years since 25 schools were introduced to the Peermont School Support Programme. Principals and teachers say there has been a major difference to the behaviour of pupils, especially their interest in learning.

"The tablets have made them eager to learn more," said Gugulesizwe Primary School teacher Lindiwe Mawela.

Gugulesizwe and 24 other schools in Ekurhuleni and Sedibeng are part of the R40m programme that has seen each school being issued with 50 iPads.

The primary focus of the programme is on English reading and comprehension, numeracy and maths literacy.

Gugulesizwe school principal Thobile Mavundla said of the tablets: "They've changed the way our pupils are taught and learn. Community members and parents now want their children here," Mavundla said.

Unity Secondary School principal Wandile Makhubu said absenteeism was a problem before the implementation of the programme.

He said: "It has since decreased and we even find pupils coming to school early to get an opportunity to use the gadgets. [The tablets] have had a truly positive effect on what we do," he said.

Source: The Times via I-Net Bridge

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