Today

Pop! Booboo! Buzzzz! These are not the typical sounds you would expect when you walk into most classrooms, but at The Fletcher School, we love these sounds; they show that our students using their Apple devices for learning. Some teachers would not be thrilled that students were using dictation to type their papers or Siri to check their math and spelling, but that's not a problem at our school. We empower our kindergarten through grade twelve students with learning differences to achieve bright futures by offering an individualized, multi-sensory, college preparatory curriculum that prepares them to reach their full potential. We use technology to enhance instruction in the classroom while continuing to implement key aspects of our program. We recognize students with learning differences acquire and process information based on their individual learning styles. Our devices and digital tools further enhance, supplement, and support instruction in ways that engage our learners and provide avenues for students to showcase their knowledge, skills, and talents.

Success

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, The Fletcher School was able to provide high-quality instruction thanks to our access to devices and our teachers’ comfort level with technology. Although we finished the 2019-2020 school year virtually, we started back on campus in August 2020 and have been able to maintain in-person instruction since. Our teachers, who are all Apple Teachers, have worked tirelessly to maintain our multi-sensory program and engage all students, even those who were unable to be on campus due to exposure or illness.
Vision
The Fletcher School’s vision is to enhance instruction through the use of technology in the classroom while continuing to implement the key aspects of Fletcher’s program: multi-sensory instruction, diagnostic and prescriptive teaching, and use of the Orton-Gillingham approach. We offer students with learning differences the opportunity to acquire and process information based on their individual learning styles. Digital tools further enhance, supplement, and support instruction in ways that engage our students and allow them new avenues to demonstrate their skills.

Since 2015, The Fletcher School has been recognized as an Apple Distinguished School. Throughout the past seven years, Fletcher’s strong culture of innovation and shared community vision have facilitated technology program growth. With the goal of sustaining the extraordinary benefits of our one-to-one Apple program, year-long professional development and student support now focus more deeply on incorporating technology into curriculum and on the School’s cornerstone approach to further individualize student learning.

Learning
A key part of the program at Fletcher is that we provide diagnostic and prescriptive lessons for our students. The psycho-educational assessments for each student are reviewed regularly to identify their cognitive strengths. Our teachers take this information and tailor lessons to meet students’ specific strengths and needs through multi-sensory activities and help students access on-grade level content through the assistive technology provided on iPads and MacBooks. Using technology provides opportunities for us to integrate these learning styles into our lessons.

What’s next
• Build on the momentum of virtual options we offered during COVID-19 to engage more members of the community in areas such as admissions open houses, community events, and learning opportunities through the Rankin Institute
• Increase the number of Apple Learning Coaches in the school
• Develop our digital design and makerspace program
• Continue to increase digital citizenship and literacy learning opportunities for our community
• Provide robust assistive technology tools and training for students, faculty, and families

Links
• Green screen video by a first grader who wrote instructions on how to feed their fish
• Keynote slides used by fourth grade to help students build community while some students were virtual
• Green screen infomercial for an imagined service created by a ninth grader
• Project outline for upper school students to evaluate executive functioning apps
• And more!