ICT & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

ICT AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AT KEY STAGE 3

At Key Stage 3, pupils are given opportunities to build on the knowledge, understanding and skills acquired at Key Stage 2.

Pupils are introduced to both our own school network and the Microsoft Office 365 platform. Pupils are taught to be proficient users of the Office 365 applications such as Word, PowerPoint and Excel through completing engaging classroom projects.

The Office 365 platform also includes Microsoft Teams which is the vehicle for home learning for all subjects in the school and pupils are taught how to access this both in school and from home.

Pupils are taught to become increasingly independent users of ICT and aware of the way in which ICT tools and information sources can help them in their work.

Well developed ICT skills are very important in modern society. It is our objective to provide our pupils with a rich ICT experience that allows them to maximise their learning potential in all aspects of the curriculum.

The curriculum relating to ICT has now changed in Wales and from September 2021 pupils will be preparing for the new GCSE in Digital Technology which will replace the current qualification in ICT.

Computer Science

Pupils also have the option of studying GCSE Computer Science in Key Stage 4 and to further develop Computer Science within the department, we have recently invested in the following Units and Resources.

- Using computers safely, effectively and responsibly
- Computer crime and cyber security
- Understanding computers
- HTML and website development
- Python
- Database development

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Key Stage 3 Projects

Key Stage 3 projects are written with emphasis placed on relevant, scenario based activities that promote problem solving through levelled tasks. Tasks cover skills, knowledge and understanding to promote ICT capability.

Microsoft Office applications such as Word, Publisher, PowerPoint, Excel and Access are used, as well as other industry applications such as Adobe CS6 Creative suite including Animate (animation) and Premiere Rush (video editing).

A variety of teaching styles are employed to suit the activity, including exposition and demonstration, collaborative learning and computer based learning packages.

Discrete lessons are delivered at Key Stage 3 and there is a very healthy uptake in the option choices at Key Stage 4. Interest in the subject at sixth form level is strong, with good sized A level classes.

AIMS
* To provide pupils with a broad ICT curriculum
* To stimulate curiosity, interest and enjoy the study of ICT
* To promote the interest in the use of ICT to produce work for other curriculum areas
* To allow pupils to use modern technology and topics appropriate to their study needs
* To raise pupil awareness of the ways in which ICT tools and information sources can help their work.
* To provide pupils with a rich ICT experience in preparation for modern society.