SUBJECT: ICT & Computing   **YEAR:** 7, 8 & 9

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: Mr I Cole

GROUPING POLICY: Mixed Ability Sets

COURSE CONTENT:

In Years 7, 8 and 9, students' knowledge is refreshed and enhanced in a variety of software such as Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Internet Explorer and are also introduced to industry-standard software such as Adobe Flash.

The course includes significant elements of computing from the outset facilitating students to learning about aspects such as operating systems, algorithms and binary.

Important e-safety awareness around digital communication is also included and students have the opportunity to explore the many benefits of social networking and other digital communications.

Each student has access to their own workstation (no need to share) in dedicated and advanced ICT suites.

For full links to the new Computing programme of study for KS3, please see Appendix 1 and 2.

Computer Progression Pathways can be downloaded directly from:

https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/media/Documents/ICT/Progression_Pathways_Assessment_Framework_V1-2.pdf

What will my child learn?

Students will develop confidence and extensive knowledge in the Microsoft Office suite of software and industry-standard software from the Adobe CS4 suite of applications. There will also be the opportunity to experience control software creating their own game.

What will homework look like?

At Key Stage 3, student homework for ICT & Computing can be varied (i.e. some homework will be paper-based and some will be electronic). The ICT access available for students outside of school includes the use of the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) and after-school use in the ICT suites. Homework may include research and/or preparation for the on-going topic.

What enrichment opportunities are available?

Students are invited to join the Computer Club across all years (7-11) and take part in competitions and group tasks.

How will my child's work be assessed?

Each project is self, peer and teacher-assessed against the national curriculum levels for Computing. These levels are made explicit at the beginning and throughout each project. Furthermore, they are posted in all the ICT suites.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

How can I support my child in this subject?

Many students will already have good ICT skills.

Parent/carers can help by:

- Encouraging students to think about how to search using keyword searches on the internet
- Asking students to assist with word-processing letters and other documents
- Having open discussions about the benefits and pitfalls of using social networking websites and other digital communications.