



SUBJECT: Computing

YEAR: 7, 8 & 9

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: Mr Wells

GROUPING POLICY: Students are set by Maths ability

COURSE CONTENT:

Curriculum Intent:

- To develop an awareness and natural curiosity toward Computing, whilst maintaining a relevance to our students in Gloucestershire.
- To have a broad understanding of the businesses, industries and cultures that students will work for, manage, lead or just interact with, and how Computing influences these environments.
- To learn how to plan a project, work logically through it, and to practise problem solving, in order to build resilient users.
- To develop an understanding and appreciation of the interrelated nature of the various fields within Computing and IT using models, concepts and techniques to support these links.

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

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.

Curriculum Implementation

Students will develop skills and confidence across the main strand of Computing.

- Algorithms — Be able to comprehend, design, create, and evaluate algorithms
- Computer networks — Understand how networks can be used to retrieve and share information, and how they come with associated risks
- Computer systems — Understand what a computer is, and how its constituent parts function together as a whole
- Creating media — Select and create a range of media including text, images, sounds, and video
- Data and information — Understand how data is stored, organised, and used to represent real-world artefacts and scenarios
- Design and development — Understand the activities involved in planning, creating, and evaluating computing artefacts
- Effective use of tools — Use software tools to support computing work
- Impact of technology — Understand how individuals, systems, and society as a whole interact with computer systems
- Programming — Create software to allow computers to solve problems
- Safety and security — Understand risks when using technology, and how to protect individuals and systems

What will homework look like?

At Key Stage 3, student homework for IT & Computing will be purposeful and lead to a certificate in Digital Skills. The IT access available for students outside of school includes the use of the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) and after-school use in the IT suites.

What enrichment opportunities are available?



Students are invited to join a range of Computer Clubs and take part in competitions across the year. Clubs will look at cyber security, coding and physical computing.

ASSESSMENT

How will my child's work be assessed?

Each project is teacher-assessed through the use of online technology which provides written feedback and guidance. Assessment criteria are shared for each project and allow pupils to show progression. Students also receive a report in line with the school's reporting system.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

How can I support my child in this subject?

Many students will already have good IT 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.