

Work Related Learning - ICT Key Stage 3

Year 8

Students in year 8 are taught ICT in mixed ability groups through discrete 60 minute lessons.

Our curriculum is state of the art and allows students to learn the basics of computer programming and control through interactive and fun applications such as Scratch and Yenka. Among other things they control the movements of dancers and learn how to produce basic games.

Students will also learn the fundamental ICT skills such as how to create spreadsheets and operate databases; we allow students to go beyond simply following instructions and employ methods which illustrate the core principles of software and why these skills are so important.

At the end of Year 8 students embark on more project orientated work to prepare them for Year 9. These studies involve them combining information from various source and presenting it back using a variety of software; including spreadsheets, web development software, graphic software and animation software.

Year 9

Students are taught 5 hours of discrete ICT in a 15 day cycle in smaller mixed ability groups.

Projects encourage students to combine applications to solve problems in a real life context and explore systems control, financial modelling, database design, Internet Safety, digital marketing and graphics creation using Industry standard bitmap and vector based graphics software.

We have formed a close link with the local clothing company [Hager-Vor](#) that have given our students a focus for their work and also prizes! This partnership has shown the commercial importance of projects that may have previously only been seen as a fun past time.

During the summer term students in Year 9 embark on the transition to KS4 as they begin preparation for the GCSE ICT course. Details of which can be found on the Edexcel website:

<http://www.edexcel.com/>

All students currently study ICT at KS 4 but Year 9 students who elect ICT as one of their KS4 options have the opportunity to take all 4 units and gain a double award GCSE.