

Subject: Computing

Vision / Rationale for curriculum / what you want for your pupils.

Pupils develop a range of skills across Year 7 and 8 through the carousel to prepare them for an option in either Computer Science or Creative iMedia.

Year 7

ALL pupils now study ICT **before** they move onto Computer Science. This means that they are confident at using the computer before they move onto the more complex programming unit.

ICT: In Year 7 ICT focuses on software skills in Microsoft Office whilst learning about e-safety, recognising the importance of e-safety to keep pupils safe online. Pupils need to build confidence using computers whilst also learning important ways to stay safe, so both are done in parallel.

Computer Science: ‘Programming and Algorithms’ is taught in Year 7 in Computer Science as this is a large and challenging aspect of Computer Science so by covering this early it helps to embed knowledge as early as possible, increasing the likelihood of converting this into ‘powerful knowledge’ in later years as it is revisited multiple times.

Year 8

Computer Science: Pupils learn about how computers work and how networks work. This exposes them to a different aspect of Computer Science than in Year 7, which is important ahead of pupils choosing their Year 9 options. At the same time these topics develop pupils’ understanding of inputs, processes and outputs covered in Year 7 to embed this knowledge.

ICT: Pupils use the skills they have developed in Year 7 to plan and complete a project using Microsoft software. In addition, they use Adobe Fireworks or Photoshop to create a graphic, enhancing their skills with a wider variety of software. This prepares them towards some of the software used as part of the Creative iMedia qualification.

Carousel		
	ICT	Computer Science
Year 7	Microsoft Office software skills including Word, PowerPoint and Publisher. Password and folder management. e-safety including staying safe with social media and risks of talking to strangers online.	Pupils are taught key constructs of programming through Python and create a Python program. They also learn how to plan algorithms using flow charts.
	ICT	Computer Science
Year 8	Digital Graphics project. (Adobe Fireworks)	How computers work and How they are connected to each other (networks).