

Term 2 – Academic Year 2025–2026

We are pleased to share an update on the exciting learning taking place in ICT this term. Students across all year groups are developing both practical skills and theoretical understanding to prepare them for future studies and careers in technology.

Year 7 – Control Systems

Year 7 students are exploring **control systems** and how technology is used to monitor and control environments.

They are learning about:

- Inputs, processes and outputs
- Sensors (such as temperature and motion sensors)
- Examples of control systems in everyday life (e.g. traffic lights, automatic doors, home heating systems)

Students are designing simple system diagrams and understanding how automated systems improve safety, efficiency and convenience in modern life.

Year 8 – Spreadsheet Computer Models

Year 8 students are developing their skills in spreadsheet modelling using applications such as Microsoft Excel.

They are learning to:

- Create spreadsheet models
- Use formulae and functions (SUM, AVERAGE, IF statements)
- Format data clearly
- Create charts and graphs
- Test and improve models by changing variables

Students are applying their knowledge to real-life scenarios such as budgeting, profit calculation and data analysis, helping them understand how spreadsheets support decision-making in business and everyday life.

Year 9 – Networks and the Internet

Year 9 students are studying **computer networks** and how the internet works.

Topics covered include:

- Types of networks (LAN and WAN)
- Network hardware (routers, switches, network interface cards)
- Wired and wireless connections
- Advantages and disadvantages of networks
- How data travels across the internet

Students are gaining a strong foundation in understanding how devices communicate and how global connectivity supports communication, education and commerce.

Year 10 – IGCSE ICT

Year 10 students are progressing well in both practical and theory components of the IGCSE syllabus.

Practical: Microsoft Access Database

Students are:

- Creating and designing databases
- Building tables with appropriate data types
- Creating queries, forms and reports
- Using sorting and filtering techniques
- Developing relational database structures

Theory: Networks and Their Effects

Students are studying:

- Network types and topologies
- Network security issues
- The effects of using networks in organisations
- Advantages and disadvantages of networked environments

They are developing exam-style answers to ensure clear, structured responses in preparation for assessments.

Year 11 – IGCSE Final Preparation

Year 11 students are in the final stage of completing their IGCSE ICT syllabus.

This term focuses on:

- Final revision of practical skills
- Completing full practical examination papers under timed conditions
- Reviewing key theory topics
- Practising past paper questions
- Improving exam technique and time management

Students are working hard to strengthen their confidence and accuracy ahead of their final examinations.

Looking Ahead

We are proud of the progress students are making across all year groups. ICT continues to equip learners with essential digital literacy, problem-solving skills and computational thinking that are vital in today's world.

We encourage students to:

- Practise their skills at home where possible
- Review class notes regularly
- Attempt additional exam-style questions (especially IGCSE students)

Thank you for your continued support.