

KEY STAGE 4

Information and Communication Technology (Creative iMedia)

According to recent newspaper reports, there is a growing requirement for employees to be proficient when creating digital media. For this reason, consideration must be given to taking ICT as an option. This will ensure that the pupils will receive a qualification that will broaden their range of skills concerning media creation, as well as their understanding of the role of pre-production documents.

Those who choose ICT as an option will be entered for the Creative iMedia qualification. The pupils will take two compulsory units and then choose 2 topics from the following: photography, website creation, digital animation, digital video sequencing or the development of games. The basis of the course is to teach the pupils how to create digital media so that they have transferable skills that are valuable in the IT industry. It would suit those who wish to have a career path in the creation of web graphics. For more information, please view this site:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/creative-imedia-level-1-2-award-certificate-j807-j817/>

If you would like more information about ICT at Key Stage 4, please see Mr Stewart or your current Computing teacher.

GCSE Computing

The course will give learners a real, in-depth understanding of how computer technology works. Learners will no doubt be familiar with the use of computers and other related technology from their ICT lessons. However, the course will give them an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes', including computer programming, which many learners find absorbing.

It will make an excellent preparation for learners who want to study or work in areas that rely on these skills, especially where they are applied to technical problems. These areas include engineering, financial and resource management, science and medicine.

Unit A451: Computer systems and programming (40%)

This unit covers the body of knowledge about computer systems on which the examination will be based.

Unit A452: Current trends in computing (30%)

An investigative computing task, chosen from a list provided by OCR, which assesses the following: research, technical understanding, analysis of problem, historical perspective, use of technical writing skills, recommendations/evaluation.

Unit A453: Programming project (30%)

Learners will need to:

- Understand standard programming techniques
- Be able to design a coded solution to a problem including:
 - Develop suitable algorithms
 - Design suitable input and output formats

- Identify suitable variables and structures
- Identify test procedures.
- Create a coded solution fully annotating the developed code to explain its function
- Test their solution:
 - To show functionality
 - To show how it matches the design criteria
- Identifying successes and any limitations.

If you would like more information about Computing at Key Stage 4, please see Miss Henry or your current ICT teacher.