



COMPUTER CLUB A computer club runs on most lunchtimes and after school. This enables students to computers for any educational purposes. This may include homework, research, coursework or just practising skills in using a certain program. Staff are available at these times to offer support.

HOMEWORK CLUB In addition to the facilities described above, the library runs a homework club between 3.30 and 5.00pm Monday—Thursday. This is supported by the school librarian and allows students to access all the normal computer facilities.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

William Brookes School



ICT

Parents' Guide 2010 - 2011



AIMS

- To enable all students within William Brookes School to access all the ICT equipment regardless of ability, gender or curriculum choice.
- To provide a constructive and supportive atmosphere of learning within the department. This will allow all students to develop ICT skills that will lead to independent usage of ICT equipment, as well as independent learning.
- To promote the ICT department as a community resource accessible to all members of the William Brookes School community.
- To provide all students with the essential ICT skills, transferable across curriculum areas. This will enhance the presentation and quality of their work as well as their overall development.
- To provide all members of the school with the knowledge and skills that will allow them to face the technologies of the future with a positive outlook.



ICT STAFF:

Mr P Garnett	Subject Leader
Mr J Crook	ICT Lead Practitioner
Mr I Biddle	Network Manager
Mr M Partridge	Assistant Network Manager
Mr P Bertrand	Multi-Media Manager



ACCOMMODATION AND RESOURCES

The ICT network within the school is based around a fibre optic backbone that radiates wirelessly to all areas of the school. This enables networked access to students' work and files from all areas of the school. All these areas are linked to the Internet and used extensively on a daily basis. All Internet connections throughout the school are subject to a three-stage filtering process in order to protect students from undesirable content.

All Learning Zones are equipped with a variety of learning devices including laptops, UMPCs and Mac Books. ICT independence is promoted in all subject areas, and programs are available to enhance student independent learning in Literacy, Numeracy, Modern Foreign Languages, ICT and the Internet. This is in addition to the usual industry standard software which is used. All departments include interactive whiteboard technology that allow them to teach, and students to learn, in a more challenging environment.

As ICT develops worldwide the department sees it as a priority to enable the students to utilise computer technology which is as close as possible to that employed in further education and the world of work.

CURRICULUM

KEY STAGE 3

ICT is taught in discrete 1 hour lessons throughout most of Key Stage 3. This delivers the basis skills that the students will need throughout their education and working life. It mainly focuses on delivery of skills that can be used to enhance their work in all curriculum areas. Topics covered include Spreadsheet use and design, Desk Top Publishing, Graphics Manipulation, Internet research skills, Web Page Design and Construction, Handling Data, recording and editing Sound and Video files. All of this is reinforced and used in many other subject areas throughout the three years. This enables the students to place the skills acquired within a real working context. Compulsory assessment at the end of Key Stage 3 is based upon the students' work within all host subject areas, as well as work produced in ICT lesson.

KEY STAGE 4

Students follow the OCR National Certificate courses at Key Stage 4. All students continue to work with ICT at Key Stage 4 within a core skills course and host subject areas even if they decide not to opt for an accredited ICT course. Over the past five years, the ICT pass rate (grade C-A* or equivalent) has increased from 67% to 100%. At present, there are three groups taking ICT as a discrete option in Years 10 and 11. This shows the popularity of ICT within the school.

KEY STAGE 5

Students in the Sixth Form can opt to do the OCR Advanced GCE in ICT at both AS and A2. Students can study the AS level in ICT that can then lead to a full A level qualification. In addition to this, students can make full use of computers to assist the development of coursework and projects within other areas of study. There has been a 100% pass rate in A2 courses over the last 5 years.