IGCSE INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

Why should I choose ICT? (Why learn ICT?)

The IGCSE Information and Communication Technology syllabus encourages students to develop lifelong skills including:

- the ability to understand and implement new and emerging technologies within a business environment
- how to analyse, design, implement, test and evaluate Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
- systems
- considering the impact which new technologies will have on ways of working and the social, economic
- and ethical issues associated with them
- Awareness of the ways ICT can help in practical and work-related scenarios.

Course content

In Year 10 you will complete most of the Practical Skills and the Knowledge and Understanding components as listed under assessment objectives below.

In Year 11 you will complete the remainder of these components and then prepare for your final GCSE examination. This includes a mock examination at the beginning of the second term.

The two assessment objectives in ICT are:

A. Practical Skills

Students should be able to:

- Use e-mail and the Internet to gather and communicate information;
- Use word processing facilities to prepare documents;
- Use database facilities to manipulate data to solve problems and represent data graphically;
- Integrate data from different sources into a single document or report;
- Produce output in a specified format;
- Use a spreadsheet to create and test a data model, extracting and summarising data;
- Create a structured website with style sheets, tables and hyperlinks;
- Create and control an interactive presentation.

B. Knowledge and Understanding

Students should be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in relation to:

- The functions of the main hardware and software components of computer systems;
- The networking of information-processing systems;
- The ways in which information technology is used and the effects of its use;
- The stages and methods of system analysis and design;
- Computing terminology.

How will I learn?

You will be building up your knowledge and understanding of ICT through theory work and developing practical skills in the use of ICT tools including using different types of software. You will be learning the concepts and given the opportunity to build on them.

How will I be assessed?

All candidates will be entered for Papers 1, 2 and 3.

Paper 1 (2 hours) (40% of final mark)

A written paper of 100 marks assessing the skills in Assessment Objective B. The paper will contain mainly of questions requiring a short response, a word, a phrase or one or two sentences, although there will be some questions requiring a more extended response. There will be no choice of questions. The questions will test knowledge and understanding of the curriculum content.

Paper 2 (2 hours 30 minutes) (30% of final mark)

A practical test of 80 marks assessing practical skills.
**Paper 3** (2 hours 30 minutes) (30% of final mark)
A practical test of 80 marks assessing practical skills.

The two practical tests will each comprise a number of tasks to be taken under controlled conditions. The practical tests focus on the candidate's ability to carry out practical tasks rather than to explain the theory of how the tasks are completed. Candidates are assessed on their ability to complete these tasks.

**Post IGCSE Opportunities:**

IB and A levels in ICT
Most of the other courses that you will study after IGCSE will expect you to be proficient in ICT.
The study of ICT provides you with skills for a variety of positions in business, government, research, education, publishing, as well as in the cultural, entertainment, and communications industries. ICT as a major is versatile and helps you develop skills useful in many career fields.

**Contact for further information:**

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