

Broadening Horizons

We aim to broaden horizons by introducing software tools that can be used for a wide range of purposes. Many of the tools introduced are free and available for students to use at home. We ensure that students understand how software can be used in the real world, e.g. to plan an event or manage finances. We also introduce students to hardware and software that many students may not have access to outside of school, including Micro:bits, the Adobe suite, Microsoft Office, Chromebooks and PCs.

Careers

We run a series of 'Careers in the Curriculum' weeks in our school. For ICT, this week takes place in December. Students take part in a number of activities to encourage them to think about how what they learn in the classroom can be applied in a number of future careers including: IT Manager, Software Developer, Data Scientist, Web Developer and Information Security Analyst.

Immerse Yourself



Micro:bit Emulator

Microsoft MakeCode for micro:bit is a free, learn-to-code platform where anyone can build games, code devices and mod Minecraft!



Small Basic

Small Basic is a programming language created to help students transition from block-based coding to text-based coding.

Praise and Reward

Our rewards system can be broadly split into four categories: classroom level, subject level, school level and privilege rewards. We'll focus on classroom and subject rewards here - for more information about our rewards schemes, please see our website.

CLASSROOM LEVEL REWARDS

Awarded for: working hard, taking risks and rising to a challenge, making mistakes and learning from them, helping others, and taking pride in the school community.

Rewarded by: praise postcards, positive phone calls to parents/carers, positive text messages home, and lesson based prizes.

SUBJECT LEVEL REWARDS

Reward scheme: Star of the Week, curriculum awards (Subject/School Way, participation, working with pride, embracing the whole curriculum), high flyer, extra mile, most improved.

Rewarded by: names displayed on reward boards, certificates, social media posts.

Contact



Nick Lilleker
WPT ICT
Subject Director
nllilleker@wickersley.net

BBC Bitesize Computing & ICT

BBC Bitesize, computing has a range of information and activities linked to our Year 9 curriculum.

Scan the QR code to check it out!



Edition 3
December
2023

ICT
YEAR 9 Curriculum Newsletter

Curriculum Intent

In Computing we aim to provide an engaging, challenging, well sequenced curriculum which is broad and balanced, covering a range of computing and ICT topics. We aim to develop our students into 21st Century Digital Citizens who are able to use digital technology safely and responsibly, and to teach students both how to use technology effectively, with an understanding of how it works.

We aim to engender a love of learning, self-belief and aspiration through 4 key intentions:

- The Removal of Barriers to Learning
- Developing Skills for Learning
- Developing Personal Attributes
- Enriching Student Experiences and Broadening their Horizons

The Computing and IT Department's core purpose at KS3 is to deliver an engaging and challenging curriculum through outstanding teaching and learning. Our aim is for students to develop skills and knowledge in digital technologies and computer science, to prepare them for a future in a world where the use of this technology is fully embodied.

Students are given the opportunity to develop their computer coding and digital technology skills, allowing them to take their studies onto KS4 and beyond, developing skills that can be applied in a range of career paths and industries.



Have your say!

At WPT we're always looking for feedback. If you have any thoughts/opinions on this Curriculum Newsletter, its content or the curriculum in general, please scan the QR code to fill out a short feedback form.



Year 9 Curriculum

In Year 9, ICT is delivered via 1 lesson per week as part of the ICT and Business Suite.

Students cover the following topics:

Introduction to Data and Data Manipulation

Spreadsheet data modelling skills in Microsoft Excel. Covering a range of disciplines including formatting, functions, formulae, conditional statements and charts.

WPT In The Park

A project based around a fictitious music event. Using a range of ICT skills and software packages are used to create digital products for the event. These include image manipulation, sound editing, website design and 3D modelling.

Effective UI Design Principles

Exploring user interfaces,

different styles and approaches to designing functional and accessible user interfaces that are fit for purpose and meet the needs of end users.

Video Editing

Using video editing software to add features such as filters, stickers, speed changes, background music and effects including split, reverse, and other editing tools to make videos look more polished and professional

Hardware, Software & Networks

Students will explore the key components that make up computer systems. Students will cover the role of hardware components such as the CPU, RAM and secondary storage along with different types of software.

Assessment Points

Students are assessed at the end of each topic, roughly once per half term. Assessments are in a variety of formats including short and long answer written questions, multiple choice questions and practical tasks.

THE COMPUTING WAY



We respect and look after computer equipment

We use **problem decomposition** to **break problems down into achievable goals**

We use the internet to support our learning

We are not afraid to experiment, using **trial / error / undo**

We organise our work with suitable filenames & folders

We use **formatting skills** to make our work presentable

We recognise that computing & IT is vital to careers now & in the future

We listen carefully & make notes during **demonstrations**
We use technology responsibly & lawfully

We use technology to solve problems



SUBJECT WAYS

The Computing Way

The Computing Way is designed to help students become young subject specialists and has a key focus on the vital skills needed to achieve their full potential in this subject area.