



ICT and Computing Department

The ICT and Computing department at King Edward VI School is a well-established department, with stable and experienced staffing, achieving consistently high levels of attainment and progress over many years.

The Head of Department is supported by several members of staff teaching students from KS3, KS4 and KS5.

KS3 covers the National Curriculum for ICT and Computing and emphasis is placed on the three strands - Computer Science, Digital Literacy and Information Technology. Students in Year 7-9 have an hour a week of ICT and Computing. The curriculum covers a variety of topics and different software to give students a broad background of knowledge and skills within ICT and Computing. To develop the ICT and Computing skills taught in Key Stage 3, we encourage other subjects to use ICT skills to enhance their own topics for example a China Travel blog made in Canva for Geography.

For KS4 and 5, a range of qualifications are delivered including:

- OCR GCSE Computer Science - encouraging students to develop their understanding and application of the core concepts in computer science. Students also analyse problems in computational terms and devise creative solutions by designing, writing, testing and evaluating programs.
- OCR GCSE Media Studies - helps students develop a wider understanding and appreciation of the media, both historical and contemporary, and their role in society, culture and politics. Students apply their academic knowledge in the creation of their own media production.
- Microsoft Office Specialist – students develop the skills needed to get the most out of Office by earning a Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certification in a specific Office program. The course enables students to access the full features and functionality of Microsoft Office, resulting in increased academic and job performance, individual differentiation and personal confidence.
- OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT - equivalent to one A-level in terms of size, students' study two externally examined units and a choice of three further units which are centre-assessed and moderated by OCR. A specialist pathway must be followed. The Application Developer pathway has been chosen to offer variety and breadth of skill to students. Students are able to develop the core knowledge, skills and understanding required in the IT sector, and develop further skills.

There are a variety of computer rooms based in both sides of the school, Johnson and Bader.

The department is a strong and imaginative one, that has keen interest in employment and real-world initiatives and opportunities for students.

The department has excellent results in GCSE Computer Science and Cambridge Tec Level 3 IT. Many students continue to University to study IT and Computing related degrees.



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In addition to qualifications, the department runs many competitions such as iDEA, Bebras, Codementum, Coolest Projects and Samsung's Solve for Tomorrow. More than 22000 badges have been completed in iDEA and over 850 students completed Bebras last year. Students have also participated in the Cyber Explorers program. Our Y8's came 2nd in the European Codementum competition in October.

The KES ICT and Computing department are keen to help students engage in a wide and varied range of experiences related to the IT world and over several years the department have provided many opportunities for students.

These include:

- Visits to The Emmerdale Studio Experience, The National Science and Media Museum in Bradford, Disneyland Paris and East Midlands Airport.
- Inviting guest speakers into school to support lessons and provided career guidance.
- Using local companies as clients for project briefs.
- Creating links with Burton and South Derbyshire College.