

SETTLE COLLEGE

ICT DEPARTMENT

The Department consists of a team of 6 specialist and non-specialist ICT teachers.

Becoming a Technology College has allowed us to develop the delivery of Technology considerably. Each class room has a Smart interactive whiteboard and, by 2012, we will have 7 ICT suites. We have invested heavily in up to date software, including Adobe Master Collection CS5.

We are currently planning our Year 7 and 8 curriculum with the aim of generating enquiring, confident IT minds. Emphasis will be placed on having a good level of skill in all the basic office software, graphics and web design and a sound understanding and practice of e-safety. The KS3 scheme of work, to be implemented in September 2012, is based on the national curriculum new orders and includes a different skills focus for each half term. The College intends to make cross curricular links with the finished KS3 curriculum before September 2012.

From September 2012, we will be following Edexcel's exciting and modern, Single Award IT GCSE with a view to offering the Dual Award in the future. We currently deliver stage not age teaching, meaning we teach mixed groups of Years 9, 10 and 11, we also deliver the entire GCSE in a year. With 10 lessons a fortnight of IT, the student's skill level is significantly higher than encountered in a conventional curriculum in similar schools.

At AS and A2, students follow the Edexcel BTEC Nationals. We offer a variety of skills and disciplines through the BTEC route and suitable candidates will be able to deliver a range of skills from office software through to interactive multimedia, games programming, graphics and web design. Media Studies BTEC is also delivered at Level 3 and could provide a further teaching opportunity.

We are enthusiastic about raising the profile of IT within the College and the Community through the range of extra-curricular opportunities we offer such as lunch time drop in sessions and cross curricular links. Last year in PSHCE, our students designed an Iphone app. which is now on Iphone's store to download. This has forged a link with national IT consultants, McKenna Consultants Ltd. in Harrogate who we are now liaising with to provide students with experience of the IT industry. We all embrace new initiatives and share ideas. Links are also to be formed to provide the community with IT coaching in September 2012.

IT is considered to be a forward thinking department within the College often leading on whole school issues. Our aim is to become an outstanding department and the trend of GCSE results suggests that we are on track. 95% of students achieved A*-C at GCSE (easily exceeding our target) and 100% of students achieved A*-E at A-Level.