

Information on the Business & Computing Department

The department currently offers the following courses:

OCR Creative iMedia Level 2
OCR Cambridge Nationals Level 2 ICT
OCR GCSE Computer Science (9-1)
OCR Cambridge Technicals Level 3 Introductory Diploma in IT
OCR GCE Computer Science (AS & A Level)
Edexcel GCSE Business Studies (9-1)
Edexcel Cambridge Technicals Level 3 Extended Certificate/Diploma in Business
Edexcel GCE Business Studies (AS & A Level)

Within the department there are three full time members of staff – one Business Studies teacher as well as the Subject Leader and Assistant Subject Leader. We also have 4 staff from other departments who teach Business up to level 2 and IT up to Level 3.

As well as the Subject Leader, there is a second in department who provides additional support to the team. Consequently, the Business and Computing sides of the department have a close relationship and there is a strong 'team spirit' amongst teaching staff, who willingly support one another.

The majority of courses are mixed ability yet are always set where timetabling and pupil numbers allow.

A Level Business Studies and A Level Computer Science have followed the (from 2015) A Level reforms where students study for the full A Level. The CTEC Level 3 courses have also been reformed and now have an exam element. GCSE Computer Science (9-1) was also introduced in 2016 for Y9s and Y10s. The new GCSE Business Studies (9-1) course applies to the current Y10s and the Y11 students are completing the final year of the legacy qualification this year.

As a department, we offer out of school time activities such as Business trips, Computer Programming Club, and our Robotics and Animations Club – who regularly enter (and win!) competitions.

Classrooms are well equipped with electronic projectors and Smart Boards in many rooms and we have five large and two small computer suites that accommodate whole and half sets respectively. In the summer of 2017 two of our classrooms were refitted with new computers, desks and carpets following a successful grant application. Resources are well maintained and up-to-date, shared between staff and pupils. All users have access to a shared area on the school network.

Staff are supplied with laptops when they join the school but every classroom has a teacher desktop as standard. Computer rooms are bookable by all departments when vacant. The schools' IT network and facilities are overseen by a systems manager who leads a team of two full time technicians and additional external support as required.

In Business and Computing we pride ourselves on our team spirit and enthusiasm; anyone applying to work with us would be expected to help to maintain our high standards, but would be made thoroughly welcome and supported by all of our very special team!