

Key Stage 3 Digital Communications

Intent	Implementation	Impact
The goal of this curriculum is to ensure students gain practical, hands-on skills in various aspects of digital technology. They will learn how to effectively use a computer network, manage files (create, save, move, and edit), and navigate the Internet safely. Students will also be taught how to identify inappropriate content and report it. Additionally, they will develop an understanding of computer hardware components and their functions. Key areas such as IT legislation, including copyright and GDPR, will be introduced to ensure students are aware of legal aspects of technology use. In programming, students will learn to create and explain flowcharts, work with basic coding concepts, and troubleshoot simple errors. They will also gain skills in using software for photo editing and animation, learning techniques like stop-motion, keyframe animation, and tweening.	By the end of the course, students will have developed a strong foundation in both the technical and safety aspects of digital technology. Learning to navigate the Internet safely and responsibly is vital in today's digital world, and students will be equipped to manage their online presence and report inappropriate content. Understanding the basic components of computer hardware will demystify technology, while familiarity with programming concepts will help them think logically and problem-solve effectively. Parents can rest assured that their children will be equipped with essential skills to engage with both digital tools and online environments confidently and responsibly. Moreover, the exposure to creative tools like photo editing and animation will enhance students' creativity and understanding of digital media	This curriculum will enable students to develop practical skills that will serve them well throughout their academic careers and beyond. By becoming proficient in file management, Internet safety, and basic programming, they will gain confidence in using technology to solve problems and create digital content. The exposure to IT legislation ensures that students are not only skilled users of technology but also informed and responsible digital citizens. For parents, the impact is clear: your child will leave the year with an improved ability to use technology safely and creatively, as well as the foundational skills needed to continue advancing in computer science and digital literacy. These skills will lay the groundwork for success in future studies, as well as future careers that require digital competency.

Assessment

At the end of each term, students complete summative assessments to measure their understanding of key topics. These assessments help identify areas where further support may be needed and guide future learning.

During lessons, teachers carry out live assessments by observing students as they work and asking them to explain their thinking. This is especially useful during coding tasks, where immediate feedback can help students troubleshoot and improve their programs when they encounter issues.

Students also take part in graphics-based tasks, which allow them to develop both technical skills and creativity. As part of this, they receive feedback on how to improve their work—such as considering their target audience and making thoughtful choices about colour and design—to enhance the quality of their final outcomes.