



Staffing and Background

- Mrs Annette Norman Chesterman - Head of ICT Department
- Mr Julian Credgington – Level 2 Vocational Subject Coordinator
- Mr Aaron Stewart

Duffryn High School has a real commitment to ICT and has recently invested heavily in it. In 2006, 3 dedicated ICT rooms were created with 29 computers in each - these rooms are managed by department staff. There are further ICT facilities in the Learning Resource Centre and one further computer suite - these facilities can be booked in advance by other members of staff. All departmental ICT rooms are equipped with an interactive whiteboard. Our system is kept running smoothly with the help of our school technician, Mr Jeff Williams and our whole-school Strategic ICT Manager, Mr Mark Thorne.

Every child and staff member has access to a computer under 3 years old. The school network is based on Windows 2003 server technology with client machines on Windows XP. Software includes Microsoft Office and more recently, the exciting addition of Adobe CS3 Design Studio. GCSE results are continually improving and reached 83% A*-C in 2008.

The ICT department has progressed towards a fresh approach of curriculum delivery by offering more vocational subjects which give both students and staff opportunities to develop skills and techniques, personal qualities and attitudes essential for successful performance in working life.

ICT is taught to students across every year group. Students currently receive one ICT lesson per fortnight. Years 7 and 8 are working towards the new National Curriculum and Year 9 students are working towards a qualification in Key Skills Level 1 - ICT.

We have high expectations of students at all levels of ability. It is essential to inculcate a sense of purpose and success at appropriate levels by clarifying realistic goals that are relevant to the pupils. This means active participation by the pupils in learning and assessment.

The department believes in equal opportunities for all pupils and the candidate would be part of a hardworking team who are prepared to share responsibilities and teaching commitment so all pupils achieve their full potential at each key stage.

Curriculum 14-19

KS4

BTEC Level 2 - ICT Practitioners

Description of Specification

This course is extremely popular with students of all ability levels. The First Diploma is 100% coursework and gives students the opportunity to gain the equivalent of 4 GCSEs within a progressive and supportive learning environment. The work is assessed internally, with portfolios of evidence and moderated externally. This course will encourage students to consider how ICT is used in the business world and will aid progression onto further education or employment.

Type of Work Involved

The course incorporates a good variety of practical and theory work with real-life scenarios and practical ability exercises. The course is teacher-led but requires further independent study involving individual research and report writing. All units must be completed to pass the course.

Method of Assessment

To gain the First Diploma, students must complete six units comprising of two compulsory units and four specialist units (60 Guided Learning Hours per unit). Students will be able to achieve the First Certificate (2 GCSEs equivalent) by successfully completing three units (two core and one specialist).

The programme is structured into one compulsory unit and two specialist units in the first year and one compulsory unit and two specialist units for the second year. All units are assessed by coursework.

Core Units – Both to be Studied	Hours	Assessment
Unit 1: Using ICT to Present Information	60	Internal
Unit 2: Introduction to Computer Systems	60	Internal
Optional Units – Four to be Studied		
Unit 3: ICT Project	60	Internal
Unit 4: Website Development	60	Internal
Unit 18: ICT Graphics	60	Internal
Unit 10: Spreadsheet Software	30	Internal
Unit 16: Mobile Communications Technology	30	Internal

Counts as one 60 hour unit

Also at Key Stage 4, the department runs a Level 1 course in IT at Work. On completion of the Diploma, students will be eligible to progress onto the BTEC Level 2 course in Year 12.

GCSE ICT

This WJEC course is a single GCSE qualification based on 60% coursework and 40% final examination. The final submission entry for this course will be in 2009.

Post 16

2008 will see the last entry for GCE Applied ICT. Our popular, new, exciting course which started in September 2007 is the BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Media Production. This qualification is 100% coursework and teaches students to use the computer creatively. As well as being a great deal of fun, Media Production enables students to acquire skills for a wide range of career paths, especially those involving new electronic media industries, such as web development and graphic design.

We also offer the BTEC Level 2 First Certificate in ICT Practitioners as a 1 year course in Year 12.

Key Skills

Key Skills encompass all areas of the curriculum and are an integrated element of every course in ICT.