



Computing Department Disadvantaged & SEND Strategy:

Attend – Learn – Keep Up – Enrich – Engage

Attend:

- Promote a welcoming classroom atmosphere where staff greet students at the door.
- Consistent approach to lessons limits anxiety (e.g. entry routine – enter classroom, log on to computer, load work from previous lesson / Teams / complete starter).
- Facilitating transfer of students from year 6 to 7, through 'Introduction to Computing' unit of work which includes basic IT skills and familiarisation with the school system. This includes introduction to Microsoft Teams and all remote access systems.
- Encourage and promote communication with teachers via email / Microsoft Teams.

Learn:

- Low stakes starters used by all teachers in the department – encourages immediate engagement.
- Spiral Curriculum reinforces topics every academic year to boost confidence, across KS3.
- Engaging activities such as 'Typing Club' helps to engage and also improve literacy skills and Digital Literacy.
- Regular use of modelling using specialist software to broadcast to student computer screens, to ensure that every student has a clear view.
- Consideration of home situations when setting homework, which is designed to work on multiple devices such as phones.
- Positions of SEND/Disadvantaged pupils – close to the teacher and prioritising for assistance in lessons.
- Year 7 students start with familiar coding languages such as Scratch, to aid transition.

Keep Up

- All lesson resources are always available online via the student portal, meaning remote access from any device. Homework is set on Microsoft Teams.
- Regular training in how to access online materials.
- Nurture Schemes of Work – specialist SOWs and assessments which reinforce practical IT skills.
- Regular opportunities to resit coursework units at GCSE and A Level.
- Assessments are always available online, meaning students can access remotely.

Enrich

- Robotics club offered to all Sixth Form students. Sessions run weekly after school and opportunities throughout the year for up to three external trips. National Competition entered each year and school visits from companies such as Eaton, promoting careers opportunities.
- After school revision sessions offered regularly to all GCSE and A Level students. Group and bespoke sessions are offered depending on pupil need.
- Year 9 Girls Coding trip to Yeovil college.
- Enriching curriculum with personalised interactive activities linked to future industry eg. scratch programming to design games, website design, animations, video editing, coding with python

Engage

- Contact with parents for GCSE and A level students who require extra support / revision sessions, via email or phone call – always logged on Arbor.
- Behaviour issues such as transgression / department reports are discussed with parents.
- Positive contact made via emails and phone calls with regards to behaviour and academic achievement, promoting good relationships from the start. e.g. top score in test.
- Strong relationships with pastoral team to effectively communicate with parents.
- All homework tasks are centrally set and completed using Microsoft teams
- Regular social media updates to promote clubs, good work and departmental events.