



16 July 2018

Dear Parents,

ICT Year 9

In ICT your son is currently working towards an IGCSE in ICT. This is a challenging qualification taken mostly by candidates across the world at the end of Year 11. The qualification involves a theory examination and 2 practical examinations. The students have been preparing for the practical examinations in lessons and, for the most part, preparation for the theory examination has been through homework tasks and then theory tests in class. It is clear from students engagement in the homework tasks this year that many of you have been discussing the homework with your son and ensuring they complete it to a high standard. Thank you for your support in this.

Past papers

Key to success is practice of past papers. I would encourage students to spend time gaining confidence on topics covered this year by doing this over the summer. There are a range of papers available on the school network for students to take home. Alternatively, past papers and mark schemes are widely available on the Internet with a quick search for: IGCSE ICT 0417 past papers. Papers from 2015 onwards are most relevant.

Free Office download

To aid your son's preparation for the examination, he can now download a free copy of most of the Office applications the students will use in the examination. All that is required is for your son to use his school email account (username_here@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk) when downloading. The links below explain how:
Windows PC: goo.gl/ejD1Ba
MAC: goo.gl/QALY11.

After school support

We will be running after school sessions in the ICT rooms next term to aid your son's practical exam preparation. This will be available on the following days: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday until 4.45pm.

Revision resources

Your son may find the following books beneficial in helping him prepare for the qualification but are not essential for success (We have written informing you about these books before apart from the last book that is recently published):

Complete ICT for Cambridge IGCSE Revision Guide. By Stephen Doyle [ISBN: 978-0-19-835783-4]

This book just covers the theory element.

Cambridge IGCSE ICT Second Edition. By Graham Brown. [ISBN: 978-1-471-80721-3]

This book covers the whole course in detail and its authors are the chief examiners for the course.

Cambridge IGCSE ICT Study and Revision Guide. By Graham Brown and David Watson. [ISBN: 9781471890338]

This is a new revision guide that complements the core text book listed above. Unlike the other revision guide both the theory and practical are covered.

If the school is in receipt of pupil premium funding for your son, the last book listed here will be provided in September.

Mock examinations

All Year 9 students will sit mock examinations for ICT in the second half of the Christmas term. You will then receive a report (just for ICT) in January.

Examination dates

We are yet to have confirmation from the exam board of the exact dates of the examinations. However, we would anticipate that the exams will be almost immediately after we return from the Easter holidays.

We wish you an enjoyable and restful summer break.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs F. Round & Mr. R. Lally