South Molton Community College

ICT Policy

Date adopted by the Governing Body: February 2013

Date for review: October 2015

This policy document sets out the school's aims, principles and strategies for the delivery of Information and Communication Technology. We interpret the term 'information communication technology' to include the use of any equipment which allows users to communicate or manipulate information (in the broadest sense of the word) electronically.

Information and communication technology (ICT) prepares pupils to participate in a rapidly changing world in which work and other activities are increasingly transformed by access to varied and developing technology. Pupils use ICT tools to find, explore, analyse, exchange and present information responsibly, creatively and with discrimination. They learn how to employ ICT to enable rapid access to ideas and experiences from a wide range of people, communities and cultures. Increased capability in the use of ICT promotes initiative and independent learning; with pupils being able to make informed judgements about when and where to use ICT to best effect, and consider its implications for home and work both now and in the future. (National Curriculum for England DfEE/QCA 1999)

This school believes that:

- Fluency in the use of ICT is as important as fluency in language and number
- ICT deserves to have a planned profile in the school curriculum equivalent to that for other essential skills

- ICT is becoming the most efficient medium for finding and using information as part of the learning process
- An effective ICT strategy should result in an improved quality of work and greater student attainment across subjects

- Information is the key raw material of the Information Age
- Students need to be fluent in its use for learning, leisure and work

- All students are entitled to opportunities to use computers whenever it can make learning more effective
- We will constantly seek to improve the quality of teaching and learning using ICT

- The school VLE/Merlin allows all students to have 24 hour access for learning

Aims - This school seeks to develop the use of ICT:

- to promote students skills in using ICT thoughtfully

- to help students apply their ICT skills effectively to their work in subjects

- to build a library of NC-related electronic source materials to promote the process of research in subjects

- to promote the skills associated with enquiry and using information as a raw material to build 'information products'

- to provide flexible learning

Our ICT strategy will be guided by the following principles:

- Investments in ICT resources must be linked to raising the achievement of students and co-ordinated by the network manager and SLT.

- ICT resources will be deployed so as to provide the greatest amount of use to the greatest number of students

- We will seek to support and to expect development of highest standards of teaching and learning using ICT