



## **Expectations in ICT and Computing during Remote learning**

### **Curriculum Intent during Remote learning- the reason for learning remotely Computing and ICT**

Computing is a core subject as set out by the DFE. It is vital for students/pupils to have competent computing and ICT skills in order for them to access further education and employability when moving to the next stage of their education.

Due to the pandemic the number of students/pupils and staff in the school building is reduced and therefore many of our students/pupils will be learning at home. This can pose problems for some students/pupils in having the hardware to access remote learning; the school – along with the DFE – is doing all it can to counterpose these problems to provide access to all students/pupils no matter their economic situation.

It does, however, offer more opportunity for students/pupils and families to engage with areas of technology that otherwise might not have been accessed. For example, using Microsoft Teams to facilitate online learning, offering the students/pupils an opportunity to still engage with their teacher or classroom assistant – something that can provide a vital link between home and school.

During this challenging time, the mental health and wellbeing of students/pupils and families is at the fore. Computing can offer a vital lifeline and link between home and school, ensuring that students/pupils are still engaging with work in a myriad of subjects, as well as still maintaining some – albeit remote – face to face contact with school.

### **What will remote learning look like in the subject?**

Students/pupils will continue to follow the curriculum in line with the current plans.

In order to do this, regular, differentiated work will be set by teachers and classroom support staff in a number of different formats. Work will build on the skills already achieved in school in order for students/pupils to progress in line with curriculum expectations and success criteria.

The main route to setting work for students/pupils will be through an online learning platform recently introduced – on which staff have had access to

multiple CPD sessions, as well as constant support through the IT team at Villa Real. Our online learning platform allows us to communicate with students/pupils through a safe (monitored) email system, and set individualised work that sends alerts to students/pupils and allows staff to see when the work is completed and ready for review. Feedback can be done quickly, and fed back to the student in order to encourage continued engagement.

The online learning platform covers all abilities in all core subjects – and many others. It also offers the opportunity for parents and carers to regularly monitor what their child has been engaging in, and the communications with Villa Real Staff.

It has become very clear that some families require support with technology at home. In order to facilitate parents and carers the ICT and Computing department at Villa Real School is offering ongoing technical support with hardware and software in order that no child be disadvantaged and no family be left to feel like they are struggling and without support.

While we hope that all families can access remote education through the means of technology, we are aware that there may be reasons why a family may require some more traditional materials to assist with learning at home. In addition, families may want some activities that minimise screen time for students/pupils. In response to this, a range of non-screen activity packs are prepared on a weekly basis and sent out to families. Thus we ensure that all students/pupils have access to ICT and Computing work and feedback – no matter their preference and competency in technology.

### **Online Safety**

At Villa Real we are acutely aware that online safety is a high priority as children spend more time accessing online and remote learning.

Parents/carers have been offered support with this topic and staff have received communications in order to keep children safe while working at home. In addition, staff have been given the opportunity to work with students/pupils towards producing work for Safer Internet Day 2021 – a worldwide event that focusses on the online safety of young people.

The school website has been updated with these topics to ensure that they are easily accessed by anyone visiting the site.

## **Resources and Home Projects**

The following are small sample of the resources being utilised:

- Purple Mash (maths, English, science, history, computing and ICT among other subjects at all ability levels)
- Serial Mash – a range of books in line with National Curriculum reading levels, along with various engaging activities around each text. This also includes a section to encourage a love for reading and engage reluctant readers.
- Epic Books for more advanced readers. Both fiction and non fiction texts, coupled with activities based around the reading
- Vooks – a range of audio and visual supported books for less able readers.
- Topic based projects (currently World War One) where students/pupils are directed to resources and materials from various educational establishments, for example, BBC Bitesize and teacher made materials.

## **How will work be assessed?**

Work will be assessed by the child's class teacher using the BSquared system of either Progression steps, Engagement steps, Engagement model observations and Early Years.

The work may be submitted as photographs on Earwig with accompanying 'design, make, evaluate' process or observed by class staff using Teams via a face to face meeting. In addition, parents/carers may send completed work into school which will then be quarantined for the appropriate time period (72 hours) before being assessed.

Rapid feedback is given when work is completed in the 'to do' section of Purple Mash, and where appropriate a 're-do' is suggested with advice on how the students/pupils can improve. On Epic Books, the teacher is able to access student/pupil scores on quizzes, reading levels, and hours spent reading and feedback and praise is offered to the students/pupils as a direct result of this.

## **How will feedback been given to pupils/students and parents/carers?**

**The marking and feedback offered by the ICT and Computing department follows the direction of the whole school policy to ensure that it is in line with school expectations and readily available to parents and carers.**

Work can be celebrated on the School's Facebook page (with parental/carers consent given). In addition written feedback can take place

on the Earwig platform. Verbal feedback can be given over Teams. Parents/carers can access students' /pupils' Purple Mash and Epic Books accounts in order to see the feedback given, and the progress students/pupils are making.

For parents/carers not accessing Earwig, email correspondence or phonecalls can be used to relay feedback on their child's work. Where work has been returned to school, it can be stored appropriately and marked according to the School's Marking Policy.