

St Patrick's Academy GCSE Subject Choice

What the subject is about:

The GCSE ICT course has two main areas of study, ICT Theory (40%) and Practical Work (60%). ICT theory will cover:

- a) Computer System used in Everyday Life eg. what makes a good home PC
- b) Computer Networks including the Internet;
- c) Computer Applications ie. how computers are used in the Real World (eg. Banking, Internet Shopping, Computer Games etc).
- d) How the use of Computers affects individuals and society (eg. the impact of ICT on Education, Employment, Leisure, Crime etc).

The practical element of this course will require the students to produce 6 projects using the major Software Packages, i.e. Wordprocessor, Spreadsheet, Database, Web Design, Multimedia Presentation Design and Searching and Using the Internet.

Course content and assessment schedule :

Paper	Duration	% of total	Content
1	1hr 30min	20%	This will test the ICT theory described above.
2	1 hr	20%	This will also test the ICT theory described above.
Coursework Each student will complete 6 Practical Assignments :		60%	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use PowerPoint to produce a multimedia presentation that should include text, graphics, sound, video and animation. 2. Use Word to produce a written report, which could be based on a piece of coursework in another GCSE subject. This report should include both text and graphics and should make use of advanced features eg. tables, headers & footers, bullet points etc. 3. Use Access to create a database and be able to update records and retrieve information from the database. 4. Use Excel to create a spreadsheet to calculate the cost of a school trip for 50 pupils. 5. Use FrontPage to create a website i.e. web pages that contain text, graphics, buttons, sound and links to other web pages. 6. Use Microsoft Explorer and Search Engines to search the Internet for required information.

Attributes needed to succeed in the course

Students who take this course should :

- 1) Enjoy working with computers.
- 2) Enjoy project work and have a record of completing good quality project work on time.
- 3) Enjoy learning about how devices work (eg. enjoy Science and Technology).