Communication Faculty 2022/2023

Key Stage 4

Whole School Overview

The Communication faculty consists of the English and computing departments, as well as whole-school literacy provision. Each area has a specialist lead teacher, who oversees the teaching, learning and assessment within each subject. The subject specialists are supported by a key stage two link teacher who is responsible for the implementation in the primary years.

We know that before joining The Observatory School students may have gaps in their skills due to barriers to learning or time missed from education. The Communication Faculty's intent is that all students will be able to close these gaps through individually targeted classroom teaching; systematic, synthetic phonics; embedded ICT learning; participating in whole-school reading and spelling programmes; and specialist interventions, where necessary.

The communication faculty works closely with all of the other faculties in the school. This ensures that data is available about individuals' reading, writing, and speaking and listening levels. The data provided by the communication faculty will inform all teaching and learning, across the school, to ensure the curriculum is accessible to all learners. Additionally, literacy and digital literacy skills are embedded into all subjects, so that students have plenty of opportunities to practise them in context.

While studying English and computing, students will improve their communication skills, such as: being able to express themselves convincingly; reading confidently; being able to navigate the digital world safely; developing the skills to use a computer effectively; and choosing their language to fit the context in speech and writing.

In Year 10 students will be placed into an academic or vocational pathway, which enables them to be working at the right level for their skills and knowledge. All departments within the faculty offer students the opportunity to achieve a range of formal qualifications, at the right level for their abilities and future aspirations.

Qualifications

English	Computing
Functional Skills English: Level 1 and Level 2	International Computer Driving Licence (ICDL)
AQA GCSE English Literature	GCSE Computer Science
AQA GCSE English Language	ASDAN Digital Media

Key Stage 4 English Curriculum Map

PROGRESSION

Pupils use the skills built through Key Stage 2 and 3 to enable them to be placed on the most suited pathway. Pupils on the academic pathway focus on GCSE and those on the vocational pathway complete Functional Skills qualifications.

Class	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Turing Vocational Year 10	**Gothic Literature** Planning and writing a story Identifying Gothic features Understanding story structure Using linguistic features in story writing Key vocabulary and spellings **Assessment** Write the opening of a horror story.	**Conspiracy Theories** Extracting relevant information Identifying Language Features **Assessment** To write an argument for or against the chosen conspiracy theory using evidence from research	**Preparation for entry level and FS level 1 qualifications:** Reading comprehension Entry Level 2 practice papers Spellzone	**Preparation for entry level and FS level 1 qualifications:** Persuading someone Structure and content Entry Level 2 practice papers 1st attempts at EL and FS papers as appropriate Spellzone	**Entry level practice papers** Spellzone SWST assessment 3 Continuing to take EL papers and FS papers as appropriate	**Entry level practice papers** Spellzone EL papers and FS papers as appropriate

Functional Skills English Level 1 is equivalent to a GCSE grade of 2-3 (E-D in the legacy system). Functional Skills English Level 1 is often a requirement for college and university courses, as well as being a necessity for some professions. Furthermore, Functional Skills English Level 1 offers a stepping

stone to Level 2 qualifications and beyond.

This qualification is assessed via 2 external assessments and one controlled assessment.
The external assessments cover the following components:
• Reading
• Writing
The controlled assessment covers the following component:
• Speaking, Listening and Communicating

Anderson Academic Year 10	**Gothic Literature** Writing: AO5/6 – Story Planning/writing Identifying Gothic features Understanding story structure Using linguistic features in story writing **Assessment** Write the opening of a horror story.	**Conspiracy Theories** AO1 – Extracting relevant information AO2 – Language Features - PEE **Assessment** To write an argument for or against the chosen conspiracy theory using evidence from research	Practice of Functional Skills L1 and Entry Level (if appropriate) GCSE Questions 1: Locating and retrieving information	Practice of Functional Skills L1 and Entry Level (if appropriate) GCSE Questions 2: Impressions	Further entries for FS assessments. Focus on different **text types** and **language features** Reading a text for gist and drawing out pertinent information	DNA by Dennis Kelly • Discussing events in the news • Arguing a point of view • Writing to influence and persuade • Finding a character's voice • discussion around collective responsibility/joint enterprise (links to PSHE)

<u>AQA English Language.</u>

Students will draw upon a range of texts as reading stimulus and engage with creative as well as real and relevant contexts. Students will have opportunities to develop higher-order reading and critical thinking skills that encourage genuine enquiry into different topics and themes. The curriculum will ensure that students can read fluently and write effectively. Students will be able to demonstrate a confident control of Standard English and write grammatically correct sentences, deploying figurative language and analysing texts.

Storey Academic year 11	**Non Fiction** Reading: AO1 – Extracting relevant information AO2 – Language Features - PEE Identifying Explicit and Implicit information Writing: AO5/6 - letter/email writing Informal and formal letter writing. **Assessment** Write a formal letter	**Non Fiction** Reading: AO2 - Structure AO3 – Comparison Writing: AO5/6 – Magazine/ newspaper article **Assessment:** Functional Skills Exams EL3/L1/L2 GCSE mock exam Comparison AO3	**Fiction** Reading: 19th century texts AO1 – Extracting relevant information AO2 – Language features and structure **Assessment** Speaking and Listening: Plan, prepare and deliver presentation	**Fiction** Reading: AO4 – Evaluation Writing: AO5/6 – Story Planning/writing Timed Questions **Assessment** Plan and write a story	**Revision** Revision of all 6 question types: AO1 – Extracting relevant information AO2 – Language Features AO3 – Comparison AO4 – Evaluation AO5/6 – Story Planning Story practice **Assessment** practice papers	**Exams**

<u>AQA English Language.</u>

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Hamilton Vocational Year 11	**Writing** Formal and informal letter writing/emails	**Reading** Identify key information in a text.	**Speaking and listening** Develop research and	**Writing** Practice and develop persuasive writing	**Reading** Revise Functional skills	**Speaking and listening** Use persuasive language to be able

	Functional skills practice, including spelling and grammar. **Assessmen**t Write a formal letter	Functional skills practice, including spelling and grammar. **Assessment** Identifying relevant information from a text FS/Entry level exam	communication skills. Present interesting and relevant information **Assessment** Individual presentation and group discussions	techniques Functional skills practice, including spelling and grammar. **Assessment** Write a magazine article	Functional skills practice, including spelling and grammar **Assessment** FS/Entry level exam	to argue a point of view in debate Functional skills practice, including spelling and grammar. **Assessment** FS/Entry level exam

The purpose of the **Functional Skills English Level 2** qualification is to prepare the learner for work, study and life. Learners who achieve this qualification will demonstrate the ability to read, write, speak, listen and communicate in English. Learners will be able to apply these skills effectively to a range of purposes in the workplace and in real life situations.

This qualification is assessed via 2 external assessments and one controlled assessment.

The external assessments cover the following components:
• Reading
• Writing

The controlled assessment covers the following component:
• Speaking, Listening and Communicating

Key Stage 4 Computing Curriculum Map

PROGRESSION

Pupils use the skills built through Key Stage 2 and 3 to enable them to be placed on the most suited pathway. Pupils on the academic pathway focus on GCSE qualification and those on the vocational pathway complete Functional Skills/Asdan qualifications.

Key Stage 4						
Anderson (10) GCSE	Programming part 1 – Sequence + Computer systems	Programming part 2 – Selection + Programming part 3 - Iteration	Programming part 4 – Subroutines + Programming part 4 - Subroutines	Algorithms part 1 - The essentials + Programming part 5 - Strings and lists	Programming part 5 - Strings and lists + Data representations	Data representations + Algorithms part 2 - Searching and sorting
Anderson 11 GCSE	Programming part 6 - Dictionaries and data files + Impacts of technology	Computer networks + Network security	Databases and SQL	HTML	Object-oriented programming	
Our **GCSE in Computer Science** is engaging and practical, encouraging creativity and problem solving. It encourages students to develop their understanding and application of the core concepts in computer science. Students also analyse problems in computational terms and devise creative solutions by designing, writing, testing and evaluating programs.						
Turing (10) ICDL	**Word Processing** Working with documents Enhancing productivity	**Presentation Skills** Open a presentation file	**Spreadsheets** Working with spreadsheets Enhancing productivity	**Word Processing** Table formatting Graphical objects	**Presentation Skills** Set default Username Copy and Pasting a slide	**Spreadsheets** Functions Numbers, dates Alignment, border effects

	Enter text Select, edit Text Paragraphs Styles Table creation	Save the presentation to your area Changing Author name Set the default folder Set the default location Copy a slide using two different methods Transition effects Set the slide timings Add notes Insert an Image Adding text	Insert, select Edit, sort Copy, move, delete rows and columns Worksheets Arithmetic formulas	Preparation Outputs Set up Check and print	Using appropriate Image Changing Author name Changing the speed Set slide timings change advanced slide setting Setting up a table Entering data in a table Inserting row and columns Resizing columns and Rows Deleting rows Alignment setting Lock aspect ratio	Create charts Edit charts Setup Check and print

ICDL is the International Certification of Digital Literacy, recognised by employers across the globe as the benchmark in digital and IT user skills. ICDL qualifications comprise a combination of the modules listed below:

- IT user fundamentals
- Internet and email
- Word processing
- Spreadsheet software

• Presentation software						
Hamilton (11) ASDAN	Module 2 Digital Media and Content	Module 1 Infrastructure	Module 3 Web Development	Module 4 Programming	Module 5 Health and Safety in computing	Module 6 Careers in computing
ASDAN Short Courses are flexible, portfolio-based programmes designed to accredit up to 60 hours of activity and skills development across a range of topics and curriculum areas. **The Computing Vocational Taster** contains modules in: infrastructure, digital media and content, web development, programming, health and safety, and careers. This course is completed using the student book..						
Storey (11)	**Word Processing** Working with documents Enhancing productivity Enter text Select, edit Text Paragraphs Styles Table creation	**Presentation Skills** Open a presentation file Save the presentation to your area Changing Author name Set the default folder Set the default location Copy a slide using two different methods Transition effects	**Spreadsheets** Working with spreadsheets Enhancing productivity Insert, select Edit, sort Copy, move, delete rows and columns Worksheets Arithmetic formulas	**Word Processing** Table formatting Graphical objects Preparation Outputs Set up Check and print	**Presentation Skills** Set default Username Copy and Pasting a slide Using appropriate Image Changing Author name Changing the speed Set slide timings change advanced slide setting Setting up a table Entering data in a table	**Spreadsheets** Functions Numbers, dates Alignment, border effects Create charts Edit charts Setup Check and print

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