

THE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

In School

Our students have access to computers at break, lunchtime and after school. If you have a computer with internet access at home your child will be able to access additional school resources as well as educational websites to assist with their learning. Even if your child has chosen to no longer study Computer Science they will develop their ICT skills and eSafety knowledge in other subjects and during tutor time.

At Home

The 'Students Area' of the school website provides students with links to a variety of websites that may be important for both study and pastoral support. This includes:

- **Outlook Mail** - Students are issued with an email account that will provide communications between student and teacher and also access to online resources that will be subject specific. Student should check their emails regularly as important documents are often sent to students using this method.
- **Microsoft Teams** - Student have a 'Team' for each class they are part of and this is very often used to set work when students are not able to be in school, set homework and/or as a source of revision materials. Microsoft Teams provides students a place to complete and hand in assignments, access resources and see posts from their teachers.
- **Helpdesk** - If your child has any issues accessing their account via the school website they should use the 'Helpdesk' button to report it. This will notify our IT Technician Team in school who will be able to support them or pass the concern onto relevant department.

eSafety

As more and more of our students are using social media and gaming platforms as their main method to communication, it is vitally important that we all understand what students are seeing online and support them in making appropriate choices to protect themselves from harm.

We will give them as much information and guidance as we can in school however these websites may help to inform you of the best ways to support your child:

- **National Online Safety** - This website provides guides, webinars and online support for parents on eSafety, Online Relationships, Mental Health and more. Follow them on social media @NationalOnlineSafety or visit their website www.nationalonlinesafety.com
- **Internet Matters** - This website supports families to get expert support and practical tips to help children benefit from connected technology and the internet safely and smartly. Visit their website: www.internetmatters.org
- **UK Safer Internet Centre** - You can find online safety tips, advice and resources to help children and young people stay safe online including a dedicated 'Parents and Carers' section. Visit them at: www.saferinternet.org.uk
- **eSafety Adviser** - Sign up to a free newsletter every half term at www.esafety-adviser.com which will keep you up-to-date with all the latest concerns, methods of support and research.

If students have any issues online there are many ways to get help and support:

- **Report it to RHCS** - We want to help our students wherever we can and would always encourage them to 'Raise a Concern' by clicking on this button in student area of the school website, or on their homepage in school. This will send a message to the relevant team in school to help support your child.
- **CEOP** - If a student is concerned about the way they are being communicated with online they can report it to CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command). There is usually a button on each social media apps/websites but you can also report on their website www.ceop.police.uk
- **Childline** - To get support on a wide range of issues visit www.childline.org.uk or call **0800 1111**