Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural (SMSC) Development in ICT

**SPIRITUAL** — Students look at how ICT can bring rapid benefits to discussions and tolerance to an individual’s beliefs. However, students are also exposed to the limitations and abuse of the internet where they question and justify the aims, values and principles of their own and others’ belief systems. Within these discussions an appreciation for the intangible concepts such as truth and goodness are developed.

**MORAL** — This issue is addressed by students looking at the safe disposal of old ICT equipment and how this could potentially be passed onto more disadvantaged people. Students learn that any equipment which is scrapped should be done to Government standards. Student also look at how ICT developments have had an impact on the environment as technology has meant that old ways of working have been changed to help the environment.

**SOCIAL** — Students complete a lot of group work within lessons as well as practical tasks when looking at theory topics. Students will need to work with a variety of people when they go into the world of work and these exercises will develop their social skills. Also students are required to understand about social media and the advantages these sites have brought as well as the numerous problems such as cyber bullying. Students also learn about the social isolation that ICT has brought to some jobs as workers find themselves sat at computers and not necessarily working face to face with other people.

**CULTURAL** — The development in technology has impacted different cultures and backgrounds in different ways. More developed countries are able to keep pace with the developments in technology whilst less developed ones can’t. Students learn about how this can impact on the people in the country and form larger skills gaps.

Other specific examples of Spiritual, Moral Social and Cultural Develop in ICT include:

- An awareness of the moral dilemmas created by technological advances.
- Appreciating how different cultures have contributed to technology.
- Students’ eyes are opened to the awe and wonder of the Internet and how this, along with other developments in technology, have completely transformed the world which we live in.
- They also look at how technology will be developed in the near future.
- Celebrating achievement through peer marking, rewards, as well by sharing objectives and criteria in the assessment process with the students, means there is transparency, fairness and Integrity in our judgements.