Our Vision for ICT / Computing

Pupils

- **Equal** opportunities to access ICT (Information & Communication Technologies).
- **Develop** digital skills via symbols, images, graphics, text, sound, music and video to support communication and learning.
- **Empower** pupils to communicate and learn with ICT via computers and assistive devices, e.g. touch screens, switches, iPads, Eye Gaze.
- **Work with SLT** to identify pupils who may benefit from high-tech AAC*.
- **Enable** AAC* users to communicate functionally at school and at home.
- **E-safeguarding** of confidential information.
- **E-safety**: use devices and internet safely.
- **Improve** provision of ICT: enhancing sensory exploration, cross-curricular teaching and individual learning targets.
- **Parental** guidance on available ICT resources and supporting applications for funding.
- **Encourage** pupils' access to ICT beyond the school to nurture full potential of digital skills.

Staff

- **Promote** and share professional development of digital skills.
- **Welcome** requests for help from ICT Support and colleagues.
- **Training opportunities** to increase skills in identified areas.
- **Improve** confidence to use ICT with students for learning and communication.
- **Evaluate** students' progress in ICT.
- **Encourage** a positive culture of celebrating ICT attainment within, and beyond, the school.
- **E-safeguarding** of confidential information, including encrypted data and respect for school privacy on social media sites.
- **E-safety**: support our students to access internet under supervision; safe use of equipment.

Community

- **School web site**: our main public resource for promoting all aspects of school life, inc. teaching and learning, school services, FOM (Friends of Mapledown), current activities and events for parents, students and visitors.
- **Social Media**: our Facebook and Twitter pages invite conversation about the school and upcoming events to the wider world.
- **Managed Learning Environment**: our secure online portal for providing: individual pupil portfolios of annual progress, inc. pupil reports, targets and annual reviews; confidential information to school governors and stakeholders.
- **Outreach**: supporting our parents, fellow professionals and the community with advice on all aspects of ICT.

***AAC** - Augmentative and Alternative Communication: various methods of communication that can supplement existing speech or vocalisations.

AAC includes simple systems such as pictures, gestures and pointing, and high-tech systems involving computer and tablet technology.