Using New Technologies to Enhance Pupil Progress

Welcome Remarks: Formerly known as the Parents Forum, the Downlands Forum has been renamed in order to reflect the inclusive nature of the Forum. All stakeholders including parents, grandparents, carers, governors and other people interested in the development of the school are welcome to attend. As a result of feedback from Forum meetings in the last academic year, many improvements have been made many areas of the school. Improvements have been made to communication between the school and parents/carers, to the school website, to the curriculum, to school uniform as well as to homework strategies. The input of the Forum is vital to the future development of the school vision. A possible topic for the next Forum is Healthy Food/Healthy Lifestyle.	Mark Wignall Deputy Headteacher
New Technologies to Enhance Pupil Progress In the past Downlands has had limited IT resources but new developments include: Three full size bookable ICT suites from September, following the ROSLA refit •90 high spec larger format laptops with high performance processors (i3 intel core) available for booking from today. Networked so pupils can save work directly to the network •30 higher spec netbooks bookable in the library. •I Pads have been increased to 15 •When appropriate students use their own devices to enhance their learning The future sees a three prong approach including the use of laptops, the use of mobile devices and the use of own devices (BYOD – bring your own device). **How can technology enhance learning?** **Learning from Experts** - There has been huge growth in the amount of information available to learners; and in technology that enables learners to access, structure and package that information. •**Learning with Others** - tools that allow teachers to organise and manage episodes of joint learning. •**Learning through Making** - One the best ways people can learn is by making and sharing things. •**Learning through Exploring** – Learners develop strategies and skills to find and filter the information they need. •**Learning through Inquiry** - Inquiry-based learning involves	Matt Ashdown Assistant Headteacher

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exploring the natural or material world by "asking questions, making discoveries, and rigorously testing those discoveries in the search for new understanding".	
•**Learning through Practising** - The most effective use of technology enables learners to practise their skills and knowledge using a variety of representations and interactions	
•**Learning from Assessment** - Technology can be used to support assessment in a variety of ways. It can be used to compile learning activities and enable both teachers and learners to reflect upon them; and to track the progress of learning and to present that information about progress in rich and interactive ways.	
•**Learning in and Across Settings -** teachers and learners can use a variety of devices to capture, store, compare and integrate material from a variety of settings.	
How can Downlands support you to enhance ICT learning in the school? **Participant Comments:** A SWOT (Strength Weakness Opportunities Threats) analysis was conducted in small groups – the comprehensive feedback is included in a document available on the Downlands website under Downlands Forum. The conclusions drawn by participants were as follows: • "Comprehensive Security policy" • "Technology not to be the "be all and end all" - remember traditional skills" • "More information for parents to keep up to date on technology at school - especially e-safety advice. We would also love to have lessons ourselves!" • "Parent & teacher education to be as important as the children's" • "Exciting learning and curriculum opportunities for remote learning" • "Expansion of 3 way communication partnership" • "Education is vital for parents and children" • "How police access to the internet advice and guidance" • "Creating useful school forums e.g. book reviews" • "Touch-typing club!"	47 participants