Ref: sco/pms/IT/2016/revision

8 March 2016

Dear Parent/Carer(s)

RE: GCSE COMPUTING

I would like to take the opportunity to inform you, as the parent/Carer(s) of a child studying GCSE Computing of the student support initiatives that the IT department offer as your child navigates their way through the coursework and examination related requirements of the course. I would also like to inform you of some of the important dates and elements associated with the course.

GCSE Coursework.

The GCSE Computing course involves students engaging with two pieces of coursework and an examination. Please be aware that the **coursework deadline is Wednesday 23 March 2016.   All of the coursework must be completed by this date** in order to allow for the work to be marked and verified before being sent to the exam board.

The coursework involves the following:-

Coursework 1 - Programming project**:** includes two tasks. Students are required to produce the following:

1. **Specification** – which includes: outlining the task, discussing how you will design your system using either Pseudo code or flow charts, success criteria and how you propose to test your system.

2. **Flow Charts** for encryption and decryption.

3. **Python code** for encrypt and decrypt tasks – fully annotated.

4. **Test tables** – identifying the testing you have done.

Coursework 2 - Linux Investigation Task – This involves 14 small tasks which need to be researched, performed and evidenced by the student.

Since Christmas and in order to assist your child with completing their coursework, after school sessions have been running on three nights per week.

However, as the deadline is only a few weeks away, I would like to bring to your attention the additional support sessions which I am now making available, both after school and at lunchtimes. I would strongly encourage your child to attend these sessions in order to ensure that their work is completed and submitted by the deadline to a standard which reflects their ability.

Additional Session Details:

Lunch time sessions - Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30pm–13:00pm in L5.

After school sessions

Tue	15th March	3-4 pm in L5 and M7
Wed	16th March	3-4 pm in L5 and M7
Thur	17th March	3-5 pm in L5 and M7
Tue	22nd March	3-4 pm in L5
Wed	23th March	3-4 pm in L5 and M7

If you would like any further information then please contact us at sthigginsl@millom.cumbria.sch.uk or stcoulls@millom.cumbria.sch.uk or 01229 772300.

Yours faithfully

L Higgins (Mr)
Head of Computer Science and IT