



Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre

Striving for Excellence

Principal • Mr Alan Johnson

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March 2018

Dear Parents / Carers

CyberFirst Adventurers Event – Sunday 25th March 2018

We are pleased to announce that Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre is working in partnership with the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) as a standalone School Hub. Newent is the first secondary school in the Country to work with NCSC. This partnership will see a number of exciting opportunities for our students initially over the coming year but also, we anticipate, long into the future. We will also be working with other schools, including many of our primary schools, to develop teaching resources in this emerging area.

The project is officially launched on Sunday 25th March 2018, through the CyberFirst Adventurers programme, and I am thrilled to be able to offer your child the opportunity to attend this prestigious event.

The CyberFirst Programme - a collaboration between NCSC and QA - is a pivotal part of the UK Government's National Cyber Security Programme. It aims to give talented young people the support, skills, experience and exposure they need to become the 'Cyberists' of the future.

QA has successfully designed and delivered a number of engaging and inspiring project-based CyberFirst education programmes for 11-18 year old school students nationwide; engaging with schools, parents, and education and industry partners to 'demystify' technology and cyber and encourage young people into STEM subjects and cyber-related careers and opportunities.

On Sunday 25th March 2018, we will be hosting a CyberFirst Adventurers event for students in Y7, Y8 and Y9. Each student should be accompanied by a parent / carer. The event will be run by QA in association with the NCSC. The attached leaflet outlines the event.

CyberFirst Adventurers is a course designed to showcase the varied roles and jobs that both exist and involve the use of technology in the workplace, to enthuse and inspire the participants into an interest in technology. It is also designed to counter the stereotype that computer science is a subject that only leads to jobs in programming and coding. The course is specifically aimed at students who have not yet made their GCSE choices, so that they get the opportunity to see how studying computer science could potentially augment and enhance their future career prospects. As children's GCSE choices are often made in conjunction with their parents, teachers and career's advisors, the course is designed to involve these adults too, so that they can see the benefit of the children studying computer science, as well as how positive a mutual experience it can be too.

You can see more at: <http://cyber.qa.com/cyberfirst.html>.

The event will commence at 9.00am, include a number of specific workshops, and conclude with the official press launch of our partnership with NCSC at around 4.00pm.

I am sure you will agree that this is a unique opportunity for our students.

CyberFirst Adventurers Event – Sunday 25th March 2018

I am delighted to be able to offer places to this event which is free of charge to you and includes refreshments and lunch. Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you wish for your child, and an accompanying parent / carer, to attend this event please complete the reply slip below and return by Friday 16th March 2018 to the Finance Office.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Karunaratne
Head of Computing and ICT

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Reply Slip

CyberFirst Adventurers Event – Sunday 25th March 2018

STUDENT: TUTORIAL:

I give permission for my child to take part in the CyberFirst Adventurer's event, held at the school, on Sunday 25th March 2018.

I understand attendance by a parent / carer is required at the event.

SIGNED: Parent/Carer DATE:

Please return this reply slip to the Finance Office by Friday 16th March 2018