

Schools

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**Becta** leading  
next generation  
learning

# ICT Mark

A guide for school leaders






# What is the ICT Mark?

The ICT Mark is an accreditation scheme available across the UK which recognises schools achieving a good standard of mature and effective use of technology.

Schools holding the ICT Mark have demonstrated that they are committed to using technology to improve their overall effectiveness and efficiency. They are more likely to be regarded as good or outstanding by Ofsted, and are able to demonstrate the impact of their investment in technology. They are also better qualified to share their strengths with other schools.

Evidence gathered to support accreditation can also be used to support the school self-evaluation framework used by Ofsted.



# Why would my school want the ICT Mark?

Schools involved in a range of initiatives such as new building programmes, curriculum development and working to ensure that every child matters have found that the ICT Mark has helped them demonstrate the effective use of technology.

Gaining the ICT Mark might also help to:

- Improve and enhance the overall reputation of your school
- Inspire confidence from staff, parents, governors and learners in your school
- Celebrate your achievements and share your expertise with other schools
- Inspire continual commitment across your school in the use of technology.

“Certainly in terms of staff recruitment, the fact the school has the ICT Mark is something that I’m advertising, and publicising and I see that as a way of helping to recruit high calibre, high quality staff into the school.”

Mark Wilson – Robin Hood Primary School



# How to apply for the ICT Mark

## Sign up to Becta's self-review framework

The first step in achieving the award is to work through Becta's self-review framework. This can be done using the online tool available through our website: <http://www.becta.org.uk/schools/selfreviewframework>

Using the self-review framework offers you a route for reviewing and improving your school's use of technology and providing a commentary which can be used to support your assessment for the ICT Mark. You must reach the threshold level in all aspects of the self-review framework in order to achieve the ICT Mark.

## Fill in the online application form

When you are ready to apply for the ICT Mark, fill in the online application form on our website. You will then be contacted to discuss the assessment process for your school.

<http://www.becta.org.uk/schools/ictmark>

## Costs

The standard fees for assessment can be found on our website:

<http://www.becta.org.uk/schools/ictmark>

You might find that your local authority or support provider can offer you a package of consultancy and assessment.

“I think the ICT Mark is definitely a very attractive award to have. It just shows a commitment to improving the school, to embracing ICT and embedding it not just in ICT lessons but across the whole school.”

Sabrina White – Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College

## The assessment process

**When you have submitted your self-review framework information, it will be checked to ensure that you have met all the threshold criteria for the ICT mark. The information is then sent to your chosen assessor for review.**

### 1 Contact with your assessor

Your assessor will contact you to arrange an assessment visit. He or she may be accompanied by a lead assessor to moderate the threshold levels within the self-review framework. This is an important part of our quality assurance, with the aim to ensure that assessment visits are carried out consistently.

### 2 The assessment visit

The assessor will inform you, prior to the visit, which areas of your school they would like to assess. The assessor will discuss an agenda for the visit and agree with you which staff, governors, parents and pupils he or she would like to interview. He or she may also indicate specific documents to look at during the visit. Interviews may be formal or informal, depending on the nature of the school.

### 3 How you will know if you are successful

At the end of the assessment, the assessor will inform you whether he or she will be recommending your school to Becta for the award of the ICT Mark. Irrespective of whether you are successful in demonstrating that the ICT Mark threshold has been reached, the assessor will provide valuable feedback on your areas of strength and where your school might be able to develop further.

Schools are assessed by an accredited assessor who verifies they can demonstrate the threshold levels of good practice described within Becta's self-review framework.

# Further information



Further information about the ICT Mark can be found on our website:  
<http://www.becta.org.uk/schools/ictmark>

If you would like to contact us with questions relating to the ICT Mark application process, send an email to: [ictmark@becta.org.uk](mailto:ictmark@becta.org.uk) or call the Naace ICT Mark office, our delivery partner for assessment and quality assurance processes for the ICT Mark on: **0115 8483140**.

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