



AMESBURY SCHOOL
HINDHEAD

**AMESBURY SCHOOL WINS MAJOR MICROSOFT SHOWCASE SCHOOLS
AWARD FOR COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP IN HELPING
TO EMBED DIGITAL LEARNING AMONGST UK SCHOOLS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Amesbury School, Hindhead, Surrey, has been named 'Community Leader' of the year by the Microsoft Showcase Schools programme for the UK. The award recognises Amesbury for being an outstanding contributor to the global Microsoft Showcase School programme and being active in the UK school community in helping to embed digital learning through knowledge sharing.

Activities contributing to the accolade include holding a digital learning day earlier in 2022 which was attended by over 25 individuals from 16 nearby schools, as well as supporting schools on a one-to-one basis, and publishing a white paper on the journey towards becoming a school with embedded digital learning.

Digital learning or "digitalness" is the life skill of digital literacy and the purposeful use of technology being embedded as part of all learning and not simply a timetabled periodic session as part of the Computing curriculum. Amesbury has embedded digitalness throughout learning from Year 1 and was awarded Microsoft Showcase School status in September 2021. There are 56 Microsoft Showcase Schools in the UK.

Devices are in constant use at home and children experiment with them from an early age. Amesbury believes that this should be reflected in their school life. As soon as children start using technology at home, they should start using it effectively and safely at school, so they acquire good habits; including safety habits, and digital intelligence in line with their experience. Although digital literacy is part of the computing curriculum the purposeful use of technology should be part of all learning, not just skills in a single subject. Embedding digital tools into learning is fundamental for preparing young people for the future

Jon Whybrow, Head, Amesbury School said, “Amesbury is thrilled to have been recognised by Microsoft for our commitment to knowledge sharing around digital learning. Digital skills are essential life skills that employers rightly expect young people to have when they enter the workplace. In the absence of funding and commitment from The Department of Education to embed digital learning it is incumbent on schools to knowledge share and collaborate as widely as possible to ensure young people have the skills they need from a young age.”

Amesbury School's journey to embedding digital learning can be read in a white paper recently published here: [case study](#)



Ends

Amesbury School was founded in 1870 and is the oldest preparatory school in the Haslemere/Hindhead area. Set in a leafy 34-acre estate, it is a day school co-educating children between the ages of 2 and 13. For more information please visit www.AmesburySchool.co.uk

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