Croydon High School GDST confirmed as One to Watch

Croydon High School has been listed as 'One to Watch' in the 2019 Education Foundation **EdTech 50** Schools Report, launched at a celebratory event held at the House of Lords.

This report is a celebration of the work going on in schools across the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, who are using education technology to support great teaching and enhance learning.

Being identified as *One to Watch* is in recognition of the school's innovative Enterprise Technology curriculum and staff are particularly proud that this has attracted such interest in what is only its first year on the timetable.



Head of Computer Science and Enterprise Technology, Rob Brady, was understandably delighted with the news, saying,

"This confirms that we are on track with our vision to develop a transformative real-world technology curriculum for our girls".



TEAMWORK: Collaboration and problem solving Enterprise Technology at Croydon High provide girls in Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9) with opportunities to develop transferable skills such as problem solving, collaboration and entrepreneurship through the study and application of a range of emerging technologies, including AI, Robotics, IoT, Virtual and Augmented Reality and Cyber Security.

What is particularly exciting about the programme is that it also provides opportunities for other curriculum subjects to engage with technology in exciting and often unexpected ways.

Year 9 students at Croydon High are currently learning how to create interactive virtual reality experiences in

their Enterprise Technology lessons. This involves designing and building 3D models and programming these models to make them interactive. The girls will apply these new skills to develop VR experiences across a range of subjects, for example to create a VR Art Exhibition in which they will display artwork created in their Art lessons or to create a VR experience on slavery in their History lessons.

Croydon High School's Headmistress, Emma
Pattison paid tribute to the 'spark' that ignited the
idea for this initiative, explaining, "Enterprise
Technology was actually born out of a discussion
with alumnae at one of our Careers events.
Talking to these impressive women,
representatives of a diverse number of careers,
about the importance of technology and
transferable skills in the workplace, prompted us
to look at what we are doing to help our girls
compete in a changing world."

Emma Pattison is also keen to stress the importance of developing the possibilities presented by Enterprise Technology, not only for Croydon High students, but also in terms of outreach and shared expertise with local schools.



Local schools are already benefitting by coming in to the school for Enterprise Technology Taster sessions and there is a planned programme in place for this to continue next year.

"We aim to become a beacon for the use of technology in girls' education and our journey has only just begun," she explained.

If you are interested in contributing to the Croydon High School Enterprise Technology programme or would like to find out more, please contact Head of Enterprise Technology, Rob Brady, r.brady@cry.gdst.net.

The Education Foundation Edtech 50 Schools is supported by Intel, Jisc, NetSupport and works in partnership with the Chartered College of Teaching, Independent Schools Council and TES.