

Computing and ICT Policy

Aims and objectives:

We believe that Computing and the use of ICT is central to the education of all children. We aim to give each pupil the opportunity to apply and develop their technological understanding and skills across a wide range of situations and tasks. Pupils are encouraged to develop a confident and safe approach to Computing and the use of ICT, with the understanding of the capabilities and flexibility of their resources. As Computing and ICT will undoubtedly continue to form a major part of pupils' lives at home, in further education and places of work, we ensure the Computing and ICT knowledge and experiences that the children are equipped with are effective and transferrable life skills.

We undertake to:

- To provide a programme of study that is suitably differentiated to meet the needs of all children and adaptable for teachers use when planning.
- To provide work which is varied and challenging, encouraging the children to explore the potential of technology and recognise any limitations.
- To develop an understanding that information can be gathered, presented and stored in a variety of ways.
- To allow children to develop and refine their ideas, exploring how to make things happen and improve events in response to outcomes.
- To share and exchange information in a variety of ways.
- To review work and consider the effectiveness of the methods used.
- To use a range of information from a variety of sources.
- To ensure access to a wide range of computing and ICT tools.
- To investigate the use of ICT both in school and the outside world.
- To give independent learning opportunities to children.
- To promote safe use of the internet and other e-resources e.g. social media/networking sites and search engines.
- Develop pupils' skills and understanding in order to be technologically confident.
- To fulfil the statutory requirements of the Computing Curriculum
- Integrate the use of STEM skills and innovation within the curriculum (e.g. through robotics, STEM projects, 3D printing, programming and coding, use of Google for Education tools etc.)

Teaching and Learning

Computing plans fulfil the statutory requirements of the Computing curriculum. Staff are well trained and support for subject knowledge is available. Computing is taught for one hour each week with connections made across other curriculum areas. Online safety is also an important part of PSHE. Across the curriculum, children will have opportunities to gain skills, knowledge and understanding in the following areas:

- Finding things out, gathering information from a variety of sources.
- Using technology safely and respectfully.
- Creating digital content (organising, manipulating, storing and retrieving).
- Exchanging and sharing information sharing ideas and presenting information in different forms, to best effect.
- Reviewing, modifying and evaluating work.
- Recognising uses of technology beyond school.
- Logical reasoning. Creating and debugging programs.

Planning and assessment

Children are taught Computing as a discreet subject. Planning needs to be specific with clear learning objectives and success criteria taken from the school computing curriculum guidance documents which build on creativity and progression in the different strands of computing curriculum whilst developing key computing and ICT capability skills.

The units of work are progressive and are built on over time so that there is an increasing challenge for the children as they move up through the school. As children develop as independent learners, they will increasingly have access to a variety of resources and always be encouraged to reflect on the choices that they have made. Children should be given the opportunity to choose appropriate resource for their independent tasks.

Open questions and tasks will be developed to challenge children's thinking and learning. **Whilst computing is taught discreetly, it is expected that ICT tools will be used frequently across the curriculum.**

Pupils are formatively assessed by teachers in the course of their teaching, through observation, questioning and analysis of work. It is the responsibility of the class teacher to assess the progress of individual learners. This involves identifying each child's progress, determining what each child has learned and what, therefore, should be the next stage in his/her learning, so informing future planning. Ongoing assessment grids will be completed by the class teacher and used to differentiate and identify areas for further teaching and learning. Progress towards age related expectations will be reported termly to the subject leader.

SEND/Differentiation

Pupils should work at an appropriate level of challenge across the curriculum. It is the responsibility of the class teacher to monitor and assess the ability and level of understanding of individual children regarding Computing and ICT, and to cater for their needs. Advice and support can be sought from the Computing Leader or colleagues such as the SENCo. Conversely, higher achieving pupils in Computing and ICT need to be appropriately challenged in order to extend their knowledge and understanding and maintain motivation. Differentiated work and enrichment opportunities will be planned for those children by the class teacher, with support as required.

Internet and online safety

- This document should be read in conjunction with the Internet and Online Safety policy.
- All staff and pupils must sign an Acceptable Use Policy annually. This includes 'what to do if...' guidance and procedures to follow for a range of scenarios.
- Parents will be provided with a more condensed statement concerning acceptable internet and website use in school. This has an accompanying letter and an internet permission form for parents/carers to sign.
- Our Internet Service Provider (through LgFL) operates a filter system to ensure that pupils, staff and parents do not access inappropriate sites.
- The teaching of online safety is built on each unit of work of computing and embedded in other appropriate subject areas e.g. PSHE. Children are encouraged to be safe and confident users in line with the school's Internet and Online Safety Policy.