



St Mary's RC Primary School

Computing Policy

MISSION STATEMENT

"All are welcome here to walk with Jesus as we love, learn and flourish."

Computing Statement of Intent

At St Mary's we want to equip children with a high-quality computing education that allows them to change the world through the use of computational thinking and creativity. We want this subject to foster the intrinsic links with mathematics, science and design technology whilst providing an understanding of both natural and artificial systems. At the centre of computing, will be computer science in which children will be taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work and how to use this knowledge within programming. By building on this knowledge and understanding, children will be equipped to use information technology to be able to create programs, systems and a range of content. Computing at St Mary's will ensure that children will become digitally literate by being able to use and express themselves and develop their ideas through information and communication technology. We will ensure that this is at a level appropriate for the future workplace and as active members in a digital world.

Aims

To ensure all staff, children, parents/carers and Governors are aware of the aims for learning and teaching Computing at St Mary's RC Primary School and that these are consistently applied.

The national curriculum for computing aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation
- Analyse problems in computational terms, and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs in order to solve such problems
- Evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically to solve problems
- Be responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology.

School Staff

- To promote a confident, positive attitude towards the learning and use of Computing making it an enjoyable experience;
- To promote confidence and competence;
- Encourage pupils by believing that every child, with hard work, can be good at Computing through promoting a Growth Mindset.
- To understand the importance of Computing in everyday use and in the world around us.
- To provide children with a broad range of activities and investigations that will encourage them to use their computing skills.
- To help the children develop computational thinking skills so that our children can become effective, analytical, problem solvers.
- To equip the children with an understanding about how computers and computer systems work so that, combined, they develop transferrable skills which will enable them to design, develop or even just adapt to new tools and technologies in this ever changing digital age.
- To develop important skills that will help them in their everyday lives, throughout their lives.

Parents and Carers

- To praise their children for the good things that they do in Computing.
- To make Computing a part of children's everyday lives.
- School aims to involve parents/carers in their children's learning as much as possible and to inform them regularly of their child's progress in Computing.
- Parents/carers have the opportunity to meet with their child's class teacher at least twice a year at Parents' Evenings and receive written reports during the year.

- Parents/carers are encouraged to speak to their child's teacher at any point during the year, either informally or by making a specific appointment to discuss anything to further support them at home.
- Information about their child's progress, achievements and future targets in Computing is shared with parents/carers at these times and also ways that parents/carers may be able to assist with their child's learning.

Governors

A designated link governor will:

Meet with the Computing Subject Leader at least once a year to find out about;

- The school's systems for planning work, supporting staff and monitoring progress;
- The allocation, use and adequacy of resources;
- How the standards of achievement are changing over time.
- Visit School and talk to pupils about their experiences of Computing;
- Take part in lesson observations or planned Computing activities in school;
- Promote and support the positive involvement of parents in Computing;
- Attend training and other events relating to the Computing curriculum;
- To be understanding and supportive of our aims in the learning and teaching of Computing and to review this policy annually.

Implementation and organisation of Computing

EYFS

- Our EYFS teachers use the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum to support their teaching of Computing in the Foundation Stage.
- The EYFS children have the opportunity to talk and communicate in a widening range of situations and to practise and extend their range of vocabulary and computing skills.
- The children explore, enjoy, learn about, and use computing in a range of personalised situations.
- Computing is planned as part of a topic (half termly) and assessed using the criteria from the Early Learning Goals.
- Depending on the lesson being taught, reception children are with the rest of the KS1 children for the input or building their computing skills through carefully planned activities within the continuous provision.

KS1

- Our KS1 teachers follow the Lancashire Topic Planning guidance, based on the National Curriculum 2014, to support their planning and delivery of Computing teaching.
- The teachers use the guidance given in the Medium Term Planning and Topic overviews created by the Lancashire Curriculum Team.
- Teaching and learning is differentiated to best match the needs of the class and the individuals within it.
- Work is saved in files and where necessary/ relevant, it is printed and stuck into books.

KS2

- Our KS2 teachers follow the Lancashire Topic Planning guidance, which is based on the National Curriculum 2014, to support their planning and delivery of Computing teaching.
- The teachers use the guidance given in the Medium Term Planning and Topic overviews created by the Lancashire Curriculum team.
- Teaching and learning is differentiated to best match the needs of the class and the individuals within it.
- Children are taught Computing both as discrete sessions as well as through other topics and subjects.
- Work is saved in files and where necessary/ relevant, it is printed and stuck into books.

E-safety

A link on the school website gives more information on e-Safety and access to our Safeguarding policy. Each subject within the Computing curriculum, readdresses key skills for keeping safe online and allows the opportunities for children to embed these skills throughout each Key Stage.

Resources

We have a variety of quality equipment and resources, both tangible and ICT based, to support our learning and teaching.

- Each classroom is equipped with a bank of computers for the children to use.
- Each classroom has a computer and interactive display/TV.
- All teachers have an up to date ipad.
- Classrooms have a supply of Mini ipads.
- Teachers are encouraged to use Computing within all curriculum areas.

- Apps are purchased for both the children and adults. These are used in a cross-curricular manner. Children have access to learning apps including TimesTable Rockstars both in school and at home.

Planning Formats

- All teachers use the weekly planning proforma that includes space for Learning Intentions for each year group, whole class input, individual group activities and plenaries

Assessment

- EYFS are assessed according to Early Learning Goals.
- Years 1 and 2 are assessed according to the Lancashire Key Learning Assessments.
- Years 3 and 4 are assessed according to Lancashire Key Learning Assessments.
- Years 5 and 6 are assessed according to Lancashire Key Learning Assessments.

Cross Curricular

- Opportunities are used to draw Computing experiences out of a range of activities in other subjects such as English, Maths, PE and Topic to enable children to apply and use Computing in both real life and academic contexts and make links.

Homework

- Homework (please refer to the School's Homework Policy)
- Computing tasks can be given as homework tasks by class teachers.

Subject Leader

- The role of the Subject Leader is to provide professional leadership and management in Computing in order to secure high quality teaching, effective use of resources and high standards of learning and achievement for all pupils.
- They will achieve this by affecting the following key areas: strategic direction and development; learning and teaching (including planning and marking and presentation); leading and managing staff; and efficient and effective use of resources.

- The Subject Leader will train and coach staff on Computing pedagogy within the school and keep up to date with developments from a county and national level.
- The Subject Leader has regular discussions with the Head Teacher and other members of staff about learning and teaching in Computing and provides a subject overview of the strengths and weaknesses of Computing within St Mary's Primary School on a termly basis.
- During the academic year the Subject Leader has specific allocated time for subject evaluation and monitoring tasks.

Policy written by Rebecca Holland

Policy date – October 2020



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