Intent

At St Mary's School we want pupils to be masters of technology and not slaves to it. Technology is everywhere and will play a pivotal part in students' lives. Therefore, we want to model and educate our pupils on how to use technology positively, responsibly, and safely. We want our pupils to be creators, not consumers and our broad curriculum encompassing computer science, information technology and digital literacy reflects this. We want our pupils to understand that there is always a choice with using technology and as a school we utilise technology to model positive use. We recognise that the best prevention for a lot of issues we currently see with technology/social media is through education.

We encourage staff to try and embed computing across the whole curriculum to make learning creative and accessible. We want our pupils to be fluent with a range of tools to best express their understanding and hope by Upper Key Stage 2, children have the independence and confidence to choose the best tool to fulfil the task and challenge set by teachers.

Implementation

Computing is one of the foundation subjects and we use the Kapow curriculum to meet the national curriculum standards. Our curriculum objectives are divided into strands: Computer Science; Information Technology; and Digital Literacy. The curriculum has been divided into year group objectives and includes a comprehensive progression document for staff to follow to best embed and cover every element of the computing curriculum. The knowledge/skills statements build year on year to deepen and challenge our learners. Planning and teaching is supported by the Kapow resources, which are designed by expert teachers and adapted, as necessary, by teachers at St Mary's. Cross-curricular links will be made where possible.

The technology available to deliver the curriculum currently includes laptops (converted to Chromebooks), Chromebooks, iPads, Interactive class boards, Bee Bots, Probots and Micro:Bits. We have an IT Technician to support ICT provision in school one day per week.

Impact

We encourage our children to enjoy and value the curriculum we deliver. We want learners to discuss, reflect and appreciate the impact computing has on their learning, development and wellbeing. Finding the right balance with technology is key to an effective education and a healthy lifestyle. We feel the way we implement computing helps children realise the need for the right balance and one they can continue to build on in their next stage of education and beyond. We encourage regular discussions between staff and pupils to best embed and understand this. The way pupils showcase, share, celebrate and publish their work will best show the impact of our curriculum.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

We recognise that technology can allow pupils to share their learning in creative ways. We also understand the accessibility opportunities technology can provide for our pupils. Our aim is to enable all children to achieve. Each child is valued, respected and challenged, regardless of ability, race, gender, religion, social

background, culture or disability. Work will be planned and adapted so that all children can take part in lessons effectively.

Assessment and Recording
- Key questioning skills built into lessons.
- End of unit quizzes.
- Observing learning throughout lessons.
- Projects completed on platforms such as Google Classroom, G Suite and Scratch.
- Child-led assessments.
- Teacher assessments based on the progression of skills.
- Outcomes from these assessments recorded.

Health and Safety
The general teaching requirement for health and safety applies in this subject.

Monitoring and Evaluation of the Computing policy
- The Computing policy will be monitored by the Computing and curriculum lead.

- Progress and attainment will be analysed by the Computing and curriculum lead and next steps in learning will be identified from this analysis.

- Monitoring of work and planning will be undertaken by the subject and curriculum lead.

- A Computing audit will be undertaken regularly to ensure staff have adequate skills and knowledge to teach Computing, as well as appropriate resourcing.

Policy updated
Karen Philpott (subject lead)
Policy Date: December 2023
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