Horsington Church School

"That they may have life, Life in all its fullness."
John 10:10

COMPUTING POLICY

RATIONALE

The study of Computing enables our children to:

- use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world
- make deep links with mathematics, science and design and technology
- build knowledge of principles of information and computation, how digital systems work, and how to put this knowledge to use through programming
- become digitally literate - able to use, express themselves and develop ideas through information and communication technology

AIMS

We enable our children to:

- solve problems in a creative, logical and collaborative way through computational thinking, developed through repeated programming opportunities and opportunities to build understanding and apply the concepts of computer science
- become responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology
- have a growing awareness of how technology is used in the world around them and of the benefits it provides. They are supported to evaluate and use information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies
- develop and understanding of the purposes for using technology through opportunities for communication and collaboration, and these are used to bring together home and school learning experiences
- use technology imaginatively
- access a variety of devices and resources and reflect on the choices they make to use them.

OBJECTIVES

We expect our children to:

- develop computing skills, knowledge and understanding
- develop an understanding of the wider applications of computer systems and communication technology in society
- develop independent and logical thinking through reasoning, decision making and problem solving
- develop imagination and creativity
- work independently and collaboratively.

PRINCIPLES OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

APPROACHES TO THE TEACHING OF COMPUTING: Computing can v=be used to support all aspects of the curriculum

Key skills in information technology are developed through the Multimedia and Handling Data threads and are integrated into learning in other curriculum areas. e-Safety is developed through PSHE and, together with the threads of Technology in Our Lives and Multimedia, builds the skills and understanding of Digital Literacy.

BREADTH AND BALANCE: We use a Computing Progression based around PurpleMash, a commercial scheme we use to support learning. E-safety is an important aspect of this.

Opportunities: Our aim is to ensure that all pupils make progress and gain positively from each computing lesson.

All teachers aim to:
• plan lessons so that all pupils can be included;
• use a range of resources effectively to allow access to whole class or group work;
• differentiate tasks or activities;
• organise the class and deploy staff to support groups or individual needs.

Where teaching assistants are deployed to support pupils with special educational needs they are clearly briefed as to the key objective and the desired outcome of the activity including key vocabulary and questions.

CROSS CURRICULAR LINKS: Opportunities are identified for drawing computing experience out of a wide range of subject areas.

ASSESSMENT, RECORDING AND REPORTING

Assessment is against the progression document and carried out termly or at then end of a unit of work.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Computers and related technology are made available to all pupils regardless of gender, race or abilities. The school is aware that not all pupils have the same access to computers at home and this is considered by staff in the planning and delivery of the curriculum.

RESOURCES

Computing provides as unique challenge for resourcing. It is recognized that it is important to keep hardware and related to resources as up-to-date as is financially possible.

CONCLUSION

This policy is written in accordance with the Aims of the School and has been agreed by all members of staff. It forms part of the Curricular Policies of the school and should be read alongside other relevant statements. It will be reviewed at regular intervals.

Updated: December 2020