Computing Policy

THE REASON FOR THIS POLICY

This policy outlines the Computing curriculum taught in St. Andrew's Church of England Primary School. It reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching staff and was approved by the Governing Body. It is the responsibility of the whole staff to implement this policy.

PRINCIPLES RELATING TO THE AIMS AND ETHOS OF THE SCHOOL

The aims of the school which are reflected in the policy are as follows:

1. To encourage children to become highly motivated life-long learners.
2. To develop high self-esteem – respecting themselves, others and the environment.
3. To provide an ethos of support, challenge and encouragement.
4. To provide learning partnerships between home, school and the community.

NATURE

Computing in the National Curriculum is a foundation subject. However, through all core and foundation subjects, children will be given the opportunity to develop their computing capability as part of the creative curriculum

The Programme of Study for each key stage is broken down into knowledge, skills and understanding, which sets out what must be taught during each key stage, and breadth of study which sets out the contexts, activities, areas of study and range of experience through which the knowledge, skills and understanding should be taught.

For details of specific applications in other curriculum areas refer to the policy statements and schemes of work. The development of computing skills will follow Chris Quigley's key skills for each level of the National Curriculum alongside the scheme of work set by Purple Mash. The Purple Mash Computing Scheme of Work is a comprehensive set of resources aligned to the National Curriculum for Computing, Technology and Digital Competence. The Scheme of Work is intended to facilitate teachers in achieving the very best outcomes for children. It exposes children to a wide variety of digital tools, technological skills, and innovations. It contains everything that is needed to deliver inspiring and engaging lessons whilst allowing for the flexibility to meet individual school needs. Lessons are delivered from lesson plans with accompanying slide shows and resources. They have included additional units that go beyond the expectations of National Curriculum, whilst also providing 'Catch-Up' units to close gaps in learning. We use a range of softwares for Computer Science including Purple Mash, Espresso, Scratch and programmable toys/ The scheme for Early Years (Reception) shows opportunities for using Mini Mash or Purple Mash as part of the Early Years classroom to support children in working towards

early learning goals. We also plan to use the 'Educated for a Connected World' document, in links with being safe online. These schemes will be used alongside other software to provide the children with a broad range of technologies, in order to prepare them for the use of technology in later life.

ENTITLEMENT

All children have an entitlement to access the national curriculum programme of study for Computing. The units will be covered each term by each age group as shown on the school's creative curriculum framework and discretely where it fits through topic areas.

All children irrespective of age, gender or ability will have full access to the use of computing equipment.

INTENT

At our school we want pupils to become masters of technology and not slaves to it. Technology is everywhere and will play a vital role in pupil's lives. Therefore, we want to model and educate our pupils on how to use technology positively, responsibility 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 when using technology and as a school we utilise technology to model positive use. We recognise that the best prevention for a lot of issues regarding technology is through education.

Technology allows pupils to share their learning in creative ways and can provide accessible opportunities for all pupils. Our knowledge rich curriculum must be balanced with the opportunity for the children to apply their knowledge to help them become skilful computer scientists.

We encourage staff to try and embed computing across the whole curriculum and want our pupils to be fluent with a range of tools to best express their understanding. We hope that higher up the school the children will have the independence and confidence needed with technology in their next stage of education and in later life.

IMPLEMENTATION

The programmes of study set out in the Statutory Orders form the content of the school curriculum for Computing

In the Foundation year, children may be introduced to suitable software, Interactive screen, Beebots and Ipads.

In Key stage 1 and 2 children may have experience with:
- Laptop's and related software

- Beebots
- Interactive whiteboards
- Visualisers
- Dataloggers
- Music systems
- Ipads

Children in both key stages are taught as a class. All teachers are responsible for planning and teaching Computing, using the Purple Mash scheme of work as a basis and supplementing where appropriate.

Children with Special Educational Needs will have full access to the complete Computing entitlement, and in addition whatever software may be deemed appropriate to their particular needs.

Teachers should make themselves familiar with the regulations and procedures for dealing with all aspects of computing, as laid down in the school's Health and Safety Policy, and ensure that they are carried out accordingly, including when non-teaching staff and helpers are involved in supervisory roles concerning computing.

Before any child is allowed to log on to the network, their parents must have signed the agreement form. It is the class teacher's responsibility to ensure that this has happened. At the start of KS2, children will be asked to sign a new form for responsible internet use.

The role of the Computing Co-ordinator is to ensure that the necessary hardware and peripherals are purchased and maintained, to offer advice and help where necessary and to keep abreast of current developments in the subject area along with Ark ICT Management. It is the responsibility of the ARK ICT management to load any new software, maintain hardware and to monitor internet use.

IMPACT

We encourage our children to enjoy and value the curriculum we deliver. We will constantly ask the WHY behind our learning and not just the HOW. We want learners to discuss, reflect and appreciate the important computing has on their learning, development and well being,

Finding the right balance with technology is key to an effective education and 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 into their next stage of education and beyond. We encourage regular discussions between staff and pupils on how it is best to understand and embed this. The way pupils showcase, share, celebrate and publish this work will best show the impact of our curriculum. We also look at evidence through reviewing pupil's knowledge and observing learning. Progress of our computing curriculum is demonstrated through outcomes and the

record of coverage in the process of achieving these outcomes. Teachers make informal assessments at the end of each unit; an assessment is made on the evidence gathered. These are reported in the school's annual report.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The school is aware of the Health and Safety issues involved in children's use of computing equipment. The school will dispose of redundant equipment responsibly by selling, advertising in the County disposal bulletin, offering to charities or disposing of safely and appropriately. E-safety is an integral part of learning for all children.

SECURITY

• All equipment will be security marked and noted in the school inventory.
• Ark will be responsible for regularly updating anti-virus software.
• No discs from outside school should be allowed in machines without permission from the Computing coordinator.
• Use of computing equipment will be strictly in line with the school's 'Acceptable Use Policy' and E-Safety Policy
• Parents will be made aware of the 'Acceptable Use policy' and will be asked to give signed permission for their children to use computers, the Internet and e mail in school.
• All pupils and parents will be aware of the School Rules for responsible Use of computing equipment and the Internet and will understand the consequence of any misuse.
• Children should not bring homework into school held on memory sticks or external drives. Computing based homework should be emailed to the office.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTATION

This policy was informed by reference to the new statutory orders for Computing (National Curriculum), and guidance from the Lincolnshire Curriculum Service.

Drafted by: Amy Curt

Approved by the Governing Body:

Person to initiate review: ICT Co-ordinator