



Computing Curriculum Intent

Intent

At St Nicholas, we are committed to ensuring everyone uses Information Communication Technology safely, with purpose, challenge and enjoyment. Technology will support communication and learning in our school community and we will teach the skills required to allow everyone to have access. We believe “A high-quality computing education equips pupils to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world.” NC Computing Programme of Study 2013.

We believe great teaching takes what pupils already know and builds on it. For this to happen, staff need a strong subject knowledge, a wide range of pedagogical approaches at their disposal and a willingness to learn themselves. Great learning happens when pupils feel secure and confident. For this to happen, pupils and their parents need to trust staff, be willing to make mistakes and use equipment responsibly.

Implementation

We use the National Centre for Computing Education Computing curriculum as our core scheme of work, which we adapt and supplement with culturally relevant projects for our pupils and it is supported by our Purple Mash subscription, to ensure full coverage and progression through the school. More work is currently being done to identify cross-curricular links between Computing and other subjects to provide ever-more inspiring contexts.

We have a 3d printer to use in projects that link real world Computing into classroom work. Code Club (for pupils and their parents) runs regularly throughout the year and we get involved in national events and competitions such as The Hour of Code and Code Week UK. Trips to places like the Apple Store in London and Computing Museums in Cambridge and Milton Keynes have been planned. Outside agencies such as SetPoint have provided classroom workshops on the use of Micro:bits.

Where a child has limited access to digital devices at home, opportunities to use school devices at Lunch Club and After-School Club are provided. Careful use of ‘partner work’ during lessons can be used to support less confident pupils.

Parents, Pupils, Staff and Governors sign an Acceptable Use Agreement to ensure we are all using digital technologies as safely and as responsibly as possible. Safer Internet Day in February is an annual highlight on the school calendar.



Impact

The impact of our approach to teaching Computing is that we have children who are digitally literate and able to navigate the internet (and all it provides) both safely and responsibly. Online-Safety is embedded within the wider school culture. Policies are comprehensive and regularly reviewed.

We have children who can work collaboratively as part of a team, persevere in the face of difficulties and use their Computing skills to solve real problems.

We raise our children's digital skills through learning about Computing in the real world and relating it to their own personal experiences. As a school we are always looking for new ideas to incorporate into our Computing provision to further develop our children's understanding of the wider uses of technology.