



St Mildred's P I School Computing Policy



Intent

We endeavour to ensure that all staff and pupils have the opportunity to develop their potential through the safe and effective use of Information and Communication Technology/ Computing across the curriculum and in the management of the school. We recognise that the development of ICT/Computing is rapidly changing both at home and in the community. Its impact on the life of individuals continues to grow and it is essential that our pupils can confidently take advantage of its opportunities and understand its effects. As well as being an important curriculum requirement, we believe that the ability to use ICT effectively is a vital skill in modern society.

The National Curriculum Programme requires ICT/Computing to be used in all subjects where appropriate, consequently the use of ICT/Computing is promoted within all subjects as well as being a subject in its own right. ICT/Computing is a cross-curricular competence which is concerned with the acquisition, storage, manipulation, interpretation and telecommunication of information. It involves creating, collecting, organising, storing, processing and presenting information for specific purposes by electronic means.

The National Curriculum for computing aims to ensure that all pupils:

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



Computing in the EYFS

In the EYFS Computing is taught within 'Understanding the World'. We start from pupils own experiences and by looking at their immediate surroundings e.g. their home and the school environment and what they can already do. They will use a variety of different technological equipment such as microphones, Beebots, I-pads and laptops, in a purposeful way that is related to real life. Teachers plan for Computing to be used independently as well as designing specific structured lessons.

Implementation

We strive to achieve our vision for pupils by:

- Using ICT where possible to enhance children's learning in all areas of the curriculum.
- Introducing the children to a wide range of ICT applications and ICT tools, such as word processing, internet searches, databases, graphics, and software for control technology, such as processing sound, coding and pictures.
- Helping pupils acquire the skills to use appropriate ICT tools safely, creatively and effectively, with purpose and enjoyment.
- Equipping pupils with the knowledge of the uses, effects and limitations of ICT, and enabling them to evaluate the benefits of ICT and its impact on society.
- Helping children to become confident and independent users of ICT.
- Helping all children to achieve the highest standards of achievement, regardless of gender or background.
- Encouraging pupils to take advantage of a wide variety of opportunities to make informed judgments about ICT applications and their effects.
- Enabling children to take greater responsibility for their own learning and begin to provide opportunities for them to decide when it is appropriate to use ICT in their work.

At St Mildred's we plan using 'Cornerstones' which is a creative curriculum approach to learning and extends the principles of the Foundation Stage and its seven areas of learning into key stage 1. It focuses on the skills that need to be learnt and this encompasses the National Curriculum. Cornerstones uses a number of topics, which our planning is based around.

We carry out our planning in two stages: medium and short term

- It is through our medium-term plans that we take these themes and plan our computing activities to cross link with our other areas of the curriculum. This planning is done in year group teams
- Class teachers across year groups also plan weekly and set out activities to be focused on and lesson objectives.

Where it is not possible to link the Computing objectives to a topic then some objectives are taught explicitly. We build upon the prior learning of the children to ensure the progression of skills is clear.

Resources

At St Mildred's we have a range of resources available to us in order to teach the Computing curriculum. This includes:

A computing suite of computers
A trolley of laptops and netbooks
A trolley of ipads and tablets
Beebots and related resources
Remote control cars
A range of software



Computing and SEN

At St Mildred's we believe that all pupils are entitled to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum and teachers match the learning to the needs and abilities of all of the pupils. We use a range of strategies to develop the pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills. Where appropriate, materials are modified or support is provided to enable pupils with SEND to access the learning. In Computing sessions there are a range of strategies used to ensure inclusion of all pupils. These include:

- Pre teaching of specific skills prior to the lesson
- Quality first teaching to ensure the way lessons are planned and delivered meet the children's needs
- Practical activities/ elements to each lesson
- Use of simplified keyboard
- Small group support (only half a class are taken to the Computing Suite)
- 1:1 support if needed
- Adaptation of materials for specific needs

As well as these strategies we can also meet the needs of specific children through the use of specific technology and software such as ipads, Alphasmarts, Clicker, Communicate in Print etc

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

All children regardless of race, gender or ability have equal access to Computing in order to develop their personal Computing capability.

Through careful planning, monitoring and assessment we ensure that all our pupils:

1. have equal access to ICT/computing resources;
2. have equal opportunities to develop ICT/computing capability;
3. use software which is appropriate to their age and ability.

Impact

By the end of KS1 children at St Mildred's should be able to:

- understand what algorithms are, how they are implemented as programs on digital devices, and that programs execute by following precise and unambiguous instructions
- create and debug simple programs
- use logical reasoning to predict the behaviour of simple programs
- use technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content
- recognise common uses of information technology beyond school
- use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private; identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies

Computing and Online Safety

St Mildred's School recognises that online safety is an essential part of safeguarding and acknowledges its duty to ensure that all learners and staff are protected from potential harm online.

St Mildred's School identifies that the internet and associated devices, such as computers, tablets, mobile phones and games consoles, are an important part of everyday life which present positive and exciting opportunities, as well as challenges and risks.

We will empower our learners to acquire the knowledge needed to use the internet and technology in a safe, considered and respectful way, and develop their resilience so they can manage and respond to online risks.

Please see the Online Safety policy and Acceptable Use Policy for more details.

Our website also contains a wide range of resources and support for parents and children.

We use the 'Thinkuknow' resources, Jessie and Friends' to support our online safety learning.

