Computing policy

Nov 2014

To be reviewed
July 2016

Computing Policy

Introduction

This policy outlines the teaching, management and organisation of Computing at St. Nicholas-at-Wade CE Primary School.

Computing is "the activity of using computers and writing programs for them"

Dictionary

Mission Statement

At St. Nicholas –at – Wade we believe that all pupils deserve and need a fully rounded curriculum to become confident, independent lifelong learners. Computing has a crucial role in this and is considered a vital part of our pupil's experience in school. As such, all pupils are given opportunities to participate in a range of computing based activities across the curriculum, including programming, data collecting and photography during their time in school in line with the National Curriculum 2014.

Key Aims and Objectives

Aims	Objectives
To provide a relevant, challenging and enjoyable curriculum for computing that prepares children to understand and change the world through logical thinking and creativity, making explicit links with Maths, Science and DT.	❖ To implement the 'Rising Stars' computing scheme across all year groups. ❖ To take an active and practical approach to the teaching and learning of computing.
To prepare the children for the future by developing their understanding of how digital systems work.	❖ To provide children with progressive opportunities to create programs and systems with a range of media. ❖ To use a range of hardware and software to create a range of tasks that challenge children to apply their computing knowledge and logical thinking skills.
To use computing as a tool to enhance learning across the curriculum.	❖ To take a cross curricular approach to planning and computing based activities allowing children opportunities to apply their computing skills and knowledge to their learning in other curriculum areas.
To provide a differentiated curriculum that builds upon previous learning and individuals confidence levels.	❖ To Set open ended common tasks ❖ To provide tasks and activities with differing difficulty levels.

	❖ To group children in ability and mixed ability groups according to the tasks aim and intended outcome. ❖ To provide a range of resources with differing complexities.
To equip children with confidence and capabilities to use computing throughout their later life.	❖ To develop language and communication skills through computing based activities. ❖ To effectively and appropriately communicate using of a range of media. ❖ To provide opportunities for children to explore their attitudes towards computing and its value to them and society in general. ❖ To explore issues of security, confidentiality and accuracy making links to our digital world. ❖ To develop individuals' capabilities in finding, selecting and using information.
To celebrate pupils computing work and achievements	❖ Each class has a designated display board in the Computer room where children's work can be displayed and celebrated. ❖ Where the opportunity arises computing work will be shared with parents and other classes in the school through assemblies and presentation opportunities.

Curriculum

We recognise that all classes and individuals will have differing computing abilities and levels of confidence and the tasks and activities we provide will build upon prior learning experiences.

The school has adopted the Rising Stars Computing scheme of work which complies with the 2014 National Curriculum. This is being implemented throughout the school including Reception Class. During the Foundation Stage school year children will engage in a range of computing based activities during child initiated and adult directed times. These opportunities will provide the foundations to the knowledge and skills that will be built upon in subsequent years. The subject content, knowledge and skills that will be covered during each key stage is outlined in Appendix 1.

A cross curricular approach is promoted and links between subjects and themes are made where appropriate. Individual teachers decide when each unit will be taught throughout the academic year with reference to their topic themed curriculum. Children are encouraged to make links

between 'computing' at school and 'computing' outside of school and to apply their skills across the computer disciplines.

Assessment

By the end of each key stage pupils will be expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the relevant programme of study.

Formative: Teachers will continually assess pupils progress and understanding during and after lesson times. This maybe through observation, questioning, individual/group or class discussions and marking of work.

Summative: Teachers may devise an end of unit activity to gain further evidence of the children's computing knowledge, understanding and capabilities. Children will complete a self-assessment at the end of each unit in accordance to the Rising Stars scheme. As a school we have decided not to adopt the 'badge' assessment system provided in the scheme. At the end of a unit teachers will assess against the key skills and knowledge objectives as set out in the Rising Stars scheme in accordance to those outline in the National Curriculum/EYFS for each Key Stage.

Evidence of the children's achievements will be attainable from the schools' database and where appropriate from individual subject books/folders and displays.

Resources

Please See Appendix 2 and 3

e.Safety

The teaching of e.Safety and the promotion of individuals' safety in our digital world will be a continuous process and will be taught in a cross curricular way.

The Rising Stars scheme that the school has adopted encompasses the teaching of e.Safety throughout the set units for individual year groups.

The school will participate in the annual safer internet day.

The school will support parents and carers in aiding their children to access and live in a safer digital world. Where opportunities arise the school will provide parents and carers with e.Safety information sessions, as well as providing informative links via the school's website.

Equal opportunities

All pupils will have an equality of access to a broad and balanced computing curriculum irrespective of gender, ethnicity or special educational needs. Opportunities will be taken when Computing can be used to enhance an individual's ability to access the curriculum providing them with enriched learning experiences.

Additional Educational Needs/Special Educational Needs

All pupils will have access to the full National Curriculum for Computing. Pupils with specific learning difficulties and disabled pupils will be provided with modified learning programmes, resources and equipment appropriate to their needs. For most pupils curriculum access will be enabled through the use of modified teaching methods and the deployment of learning support assistants.

This policy should be read in line with our Teaching and Learning policy and Subject leader job description.

Written By: Abigail Hall Nov 2014

Approved by governors:

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