



Computing Vision

Key Document Details

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Gorse Hill Computing Vision

In line with the National Curriculum, at Gorse Hill Primary School we aim to ensure that all children are equipped with the necessary skills to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world. Our goal is to give our children a rich range of experiences in computing and online safety to ensure they have the tools to become proficient in these areas, with the ambition of developing lifelong learners who are prepared for further education and future employment.

At our school, we follow the National Curriculum aims through our own White Horse Federation curriculum map which includes both Computing and Online Safety and is broad, balanced and progressive from Reception to Year 6. In Computing, our curriculum covers 3 key strands: Computer Science, Digital Literacy and Information Technology. Our Online Safety curriculum is based on the Education for a Connected World framework and includes a wide range of topics such as Online Bullying, Health, Well-being and Lifestyle and Managing Online Information. Teachers use The White Horse Federation curriculum map to plan and deliver engaging and creative lessons which continually build on prior knowledge whilst always challenging children to further extend their learning.

Children's previous knowledge in Computing and Online Safety is assessed by teachers as part of normal classroom procedure, through pupil work, class discussions and assessment for learning. This allows teachers to accurately pitch lessons and ensure that children are appropriately challenged and supported at all times. At the end of a unit of Computing, teachers use concept cartoons to assess learning. These are completed independently by children (with appropriate scaffolding as needed) and allow teachers to formally assess learning. Concept cartoons are also used by teachers to plan future topics over the year so that they can ensure that learning is always progressive.

At Gorse Hill, we are equipped with a wide range of software and hardware which enables our pupils to access and experience a range of different devices and programmes. We also have a variety of subscriptions which supplement other areas of the curriculum while also encouraging children to develop their IT skills. By using subscriptions such as Purple Mash and Reading Eggs, we enable our children to experience various forms of technology through cross curricular links.

Although we recognise the incredible opportunities the online world offers, we also understand the potential online dangers associated with technology and accessing the internet and for this reason, Online Safety is a key component of our provision. We aim to provide our children with the tools to use technology in a safe and responsible manner whilst still exploring the opportunities it offers. By using the Education for a Connected World framework, we ensure that learning is planned, sequenced and covers a broad range of topics. Online Safety is taught as a starter to Computing lessons so that it is a regular part of our provision and it is also linked to other curriculum areas such as PSHE and school events such as Anti-Bullying Week and Safer Internet Day. This ensures that the profile of Online Safety is continually high throughout the school and remains a key learning opportunity at all times.

Through the implementation of our curriculum, we are continually improving pupil outcomes and ensuring that our pupils become better equipped for the technology and experiences they will encounter, both in further education and the wider world.