

St. Oswald's Catholic Primary School Computing Policy 2024/25

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St. Oswald's Catholic Primary School Computing – Intent, Implementation and Impact – 2024-25

Computing Leader – Mrs Wibberley

As a school we ensure that all children and staff are treated fairly and equally. All children have equal rights to access all areas of the curriculum, regardless of race, gender and disability. Within this subject area, the SMT and all staff endeavour to provide the appropriate provision for this to occur. This policy follows the guidelines and practices that are stated and outlined in St. Oswald's Equality Scheme.

Intent

In line with the 2014 National Curriculum for Computing, our aim is to provide all pupils at St Oswald's with rich and deep learning experiences that balance all the aspects of computing. It is a subject that not only stands alone but is woven into all areas of the curriculum and can therefore provide a wealth of learning opportunities and transferrable skills explicitly within the computing lesson and across other curriculum subjects. Technology plays a big part in today's society and although many of the children at St Oswald's are exposed to technology outside of school, we believe 'Computational thinking' is a skill children must be taught if they are to be able to participate effectively and safely in this digital world beyond our gates.

By the time they leave St Oswald's, children will have gained key knowledge and skills in the three main areas of the computing curriculum: computer science (programming and understanding how digital systems work), information technology (using computer systems to store, retrieve and send information) and digital literacy (evaluating digital content and using technology safely and respectfully). The objectives within each strand support the development of learning across the key stages, ensuring a solid grounding for future learning and beyond.

Implementation

To support staff with their subject knowledge, we use Teach Computing (NCCE) to deliver the computing curriculum. We have adapted the suggested long term plans to ensure sufficient coverage for each year group is met. Every class has a timetabled computing lesson and within that lesson, they have access to laptops and iPads. We encourage staff to incorporate technology throughout the wider curriculum and we have a teaching assistant who is very skilled in computing who is available to support class teachers with their planning of this. Each class has access to SMART boards and teaching is delivered using this technology. The children are introduced to a wide range of equipment and resources throughout their time at St Oswald's including Teach Computing, a green screen, VR headsets, merge cube, Discovery Education just to name a few.

The implementation of the curriculum ensures a balanced coverage of computer science, information technology and digital literacy. Teach Computing has supported teachers with implementing the curriculum in a coherent and confident way. The children will have experiences of all three strands in each year group, but the subject knowledge imparted becomes increasingly specific and in depth, with more complex skills being taught, thus ensuring that learning is built upon.

In Early Years and Key Stage 1, the children begin to develop their computing skills through using a range of technology. Children develop their skills to navigate around a computer by exploring the uses of different hardware, practising their mouse skills, and start to use a variety of programmes including Microsoft. The use of the internet to search for websites and images is incorporated alongside internet safety to reinforce the importance. They also learn what algorithms are, which leads them to the design stage of programming in Key Stage 2, where they design, write and debug programs, explaining the thinking behind their

algorithms. In Key Stage 2, children build upon previous skills taught and apply these to a variety of different technology.

Impact

Our Computing curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression. If children are keeping up with the curriculum, they are deemed to be making good or better progress. The children at St Oswald's will be digitally literate and able to join the rest of the world on its digital platform. They will be equipped, not only with the skills and knowledge to use technology effectively and for their own benefit, but more importantly – safely.

As children become more confident in their abilities in computing, they will become more independent and key life skills such as problem-solving, logical thinking and self-evaluation become second nature.

Staff frequently monitor the attainment of children using the statements and steps on Target Tracker. Leaders gather knowledge of how the curriculum is being taught through work scrutinies, lesson observations and pupil interviews where children can articulate and demonstrate the skills they have been taught. Evidence can also be monitored on Seesaw.