Computing Curriculum

Intent

At St Paul's Catholic Primary School, we understand the value that technology plays not only in supporting the Computing and whole school curriculum but in the day-to-day life of our school. We aim to fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for Computing and also provide enhanced learning opportunities which support the needs of all our pupils.

"A high-quality computing education equips pupils to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world…core of computing is computer science, in which pupils are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work, and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content." National Curriculum

Our Computing curriculum aims to develop every child linking this with our broad and balanced curriculum whilst ensuring that pupils become digitally literate and digitally resilient. Technology is ever evolving, and we aim to develop pupils who can use and express themselves, develop their ideas through, information and communication technology at a suitable level for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world.

The aims of our Computing curriculum are to develop pupils who:
• can plan, design, create, program and evaluate information through the use of ICT
• are aware of the risks of using technology and know how to stay safe online
• use computing skills in cross curricular learning

Implementation

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in computing, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school and that help children gain the skills required at the appropriate age. At St Paul's we use the Purple Mash scheme of work which enables clear coverage of the computing curriculum whilst also providing support and CPD for less confident teachers to deliver lessons. All teachers at St Paul's are Purple Mash trained. The units are practical and engaging and allow computing lessons to be hands on. Units cover a broad range of computing components such as coding, spreadsheets, Internet and Email, Databases, Communication networks, touch typing, animation and online safety. Through our Purple Mash subscription our teachers can deliver thematic, cross curricular lessons that also follow children's interests and provide flexibility. Purple Mash has an online portal of age-appropriate software, games and activities as well as topic materials and materials to support children's learning in other subject areas for all key stages.

At St Paul's we provide a variety of opportunities for computing learning. Computing and safeguarding go hand in hand and we provide a huge focus on internet safety inside and outside of the classroom. Additional to all pupils studying an online safety unit through their computing lessons, every year we also take part in National Internet Safety Day in February. Additionally, parent internet safety workshops take place as well as a visit from a guest speaker from the local police. Finally, we actively encourage parent partnership within the computing curriculum and outside of school. Parents are made aware of online safety issues through the school website, Facebook page, links and letters.

In Early Years and Key Stage 1, children begin to develop their computing skills through using a range of technology such as Bee Bots, laptops and iPads. Children develop their skills to navigate around a computer and use a range of programmes. The use of the internet is incorporated alongside internet safety, to reinforce the importance.

By the end of Key Stage 2 all children will;

• have a basic understanding of coding and how the web works
• evaluate online information and be social media savvy
• understand online safety rules and know how to report and block
• be proficient with word processing and able to use cloud storage
• create visually engaging content/presentations in order to present learning to others.
• have experience of online collaboration and using communication tools.
• be taught the concept of personal archiving and possess their own digital portfolio of work.

Special Educational Needs Disability (SEND) / Pupil Premium / Higher Attainers
All children will have Quality First Teaching. Any children with identified SEND or in receipt of pupil premium funding may have work additional to and different from their peers in order to access the curriculum dependent upon their needs. As well as this, our school offers a varied curriculum, providing children with a range of opportunities in order for them to reach their full potential and consistently achieve highly from their starting points.

Impact

Our Computing Curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression and build on and embed current skills. Through the delivery of our computing curriculum our children will:

• understand how to stay safe online
• understand how to use a range of technology and computing skills
• be able to thrive in a technologically driven world
• know more and remember more and be well-placed to continue to make good progress at KS3