



At Willow Bank School we provide an ambitious curriculum in a nurturing and safe environment for pupils to develop:

- Independence
- Emotional intelligence and resilience
- Appropriate communication skills
- The ability to contribute to society through good citizenship skills and preparedness for work

Intent

At Willow Bank, our intent for Digital Literacy within the KS2 ICT curriculum is to equip students with the skills, knowledge, and understanding necessary to thrive in an increasingly digital world. We aim to empower students to be confident, responsible, and creative users of technology, while fostering their ability to critically assess information, communicate effectively, and stay safe online.

Through engaging lessons, students will:

- Develop key computing skills, including coding, data handling, and multimedia content creation.
- Understand the importance of digital citizenship and online safety, ensuring they can navigate the internet responsibly and ethically, including recognizing and avoiding risks such as cyberbullying, misinformation, and inappropriate content.
- Learn how to protect their privacy, create secure passwords, and understand the implications of sharing personal information online.
- Build resilience and problem-solving skills by using digital tools to investigate, collaborate, and present ideas across various subjects.
- Foster an awareness of how technology impacts daily life, from communication to future career opportunities, ensuring they are prepared for the demands of the 21st century.
- By the end of KS2, our students will be well-versed in the fundamentals of ICT, equipped to make informed decisions about technology use, and fully aware of how to stay safe, respectful, and responsible online, as they continue their digital education with confidence and enthusiasm.

Implementation

At Willow Bank, we implement our Digital Literacy curriculum in line with the KS2 ICT framework to ensure that students develop a comprehensive understanding of technology and its applications. Our approach is designed to make learning engaging, practical, and relevant to students' daily lives and future ambitions, with a strong focus on online safety.

Key aspects of our implementation strategy include:



Structured Progression: Lessons are planned to build progressively on students' prior knowledge, ensuring that they develop a solid foundation in key ICT skills such as coding, data handling, word processing, and multimedia creation. By embedding these skills into cross-curricular projects, students see the real-world application of digital tools.

Practical and Hands-On Learning: We provide opportunities for students to engage in hands-on activities, encouraging them to experiment with technology in creative ways. Whether it's using coding platforms like Scratch to design animations or exploring the use of spreadsheets for data analysis, students gain confidence through practice.

Integrated Online Safety Education: Online safety is embedded across the curriculum and taught explicitly through age-appropriate lessons. Students learn how to manage their digital footprint, recognize potential online risks (such as cyberbullying and phishing), and how to protect their personal information. Regular discussions, e-safety workshops, and guest speakers from digital safety organizations further reinforce these lessons.

Collaborative Learning Environment: We foster collaboration by encouraging students to work together on digital projects, allowing them to communicate and share ideas effectively using technology. Students are taught to use digital tools like email, online platforms, and cloud-based applications responsibly and ethically.

Access to a Range of Technologies: We ensure that all students have access to modern devices such as laptops, tablets, and interactive whiteboards. They are also introduced to various software programs and online tools, which prepares them for the diverse technological demands they will encounter in their futures.

Assessment and Feedback: Assessment is both formative and summative, with regular feedback provided to help students improve their digital skills. Teachers use observation, peer evaluation, and self-assessment to track progress, ensuring that students meet key milestones within the ICT curriculum.

Teacher Training and Support: Our staff receive regular professional development to ensure they are confident in delivering the curriculum and staying up to date with the latest digital trends and online safety strategies.

By embedding these approaches into our Digital Literacy curriculum, we ensure that students leave KS2 with the necessary skills and understanding to be confident, safe, and capable users of technology.

Impact

The impact of our Digital Literacy curriculum at Willow Bank is seen in the confidence, competence, and digital responsibility our students demonstrate by the end of KS2. Through a well-structured and engaging ICT curriculum, students acquire the essential skills needed to thrive in a technology-driven world, and the ability to navigate the digital landscape safely and responsibly.

By the end of KS2, students will:



Demonstrate Key ICT Skills: Our students leave KS2 with a solid understanding of fundamental computing skills such as coding, data handling, multimedia creation, and document processing. They can independently use a variety of software and digital tools to support their learning and personal interests.

Show Online Safety Awareness: Students understand the principles of online safety and demonstrate responsible use of technology. They are able to recognize risks such as cyberbullying, phishing, and inappropriate content, and they know how to protect their personal information and digital identities. Their awareness of privacy settings, secure passwords, and safe online behaviour is a key outcome of their learning.

Become Critical and Responsible Digital Citizens: Students can assess information found online, distinguishing between reliable sources and misinformation. They understand their role as responsible digital citizens, engaging respectfully in online communities, and following digital etiquette when communicating with others.

Apply Problem-Solving and Collaboration Skills: The curriculum fosters resilience and creativity in problem-solving through digital projects and collaborative tasks. Students are equipped to work both independently and in teams, using technology to investigate, present, and share their ideas in innovative ways.

The positive impact of our digital literacy curriculum is reflected in the students' ability to engage with technology confidently, use it as a tool for learning, and apply it in ways that are creative, safe, and meaningful. By fostering a generation of digitally literate students, we help ensure they are ready to meet the demands of the 21st-century world.