

Computing at Yarm Primary

At Yarm Primary, our intent is to provide children with a broad and balanced curriculum, which builds on their needs and prepares them for the future. We use a project-based approach to provide an engaging and purposeful context for learning where pupils are encouraged to apply the skills and knowledge in a range of subjects. We place emphasis on mastering key skills to provide a solid foundation for lifelong learning.

Within the National Curriculum:

Pupils should be taught to:

- understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation
- analyse problems in computational terms, and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs in order to solve such problems
- evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically to solve problems
- be responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology.

To implement the offer, staff are supported through the use of a cross curricular scheme, 'Switched on Computing'. This provides the children with a diverse range of learning which staff adapt where possible to match the topics the children are studying in class. In Year 5, for example, as part of the unit 'We are Bloggers', children write and publish blogs about aspects of Roman life.

We have a trolley of laptops which are timetabled across the school, allowing classes to deliver their main Computing session. In addition, to this, there are iPads which may be used by any class, for example, to practise times tables, create and edit videos, film drama work, and deliver interventions.

Other opportunities across the curriculum are exploited, such as researching information, making interactive presentations and creating story scenes, all linked to topic work. Year 6, for example, use the Internet to research information for a World War II A-Z.

Embedded throughout the learning contexts, our children learn about how to stay safe and manage risks when using computers (E-Safety) and how to apply their knowledge to real-life situations. For example, teachers take the time at the beginning of terms to reinforce key messages, through the SMART rules. Circle Time also provides the children with a chance to discuss concerns and share their experiences. Furthermore, Key Stage assemblies are used as a vehicle to remind the children of the dangers and benefits of using the Internet and how to use this resource safely. During the year, children also take part in national initiatives, such as 'Safer Internet Day' which encourage the children to engage with the annual theme (2020's theme will be 'Together for a better Internet.') Parents are also invited to E-Safety sessions in order to promote safe and effective Internet use at home.

To secure the offer we feel our children deserve, we will work on the following as short term priorities:

- Promote *Safer Internet Days and other whole school/ELT/national events* within and outside of school,
- Promote evidence of computing in curriculum books and diligent saving of work in agreed folders with pupils.
- Increase number of Computing displays in shared areas to evidence children's work and/or promote e-safety messages.

