Churchside Federation

Computing Policy

Adopted : June 2018

Introduction

Computing aims to prepare pupils to participate in a rapidly changing world in which work and other activities are increasingly transformed by access to varied and developing technology. We recognise that computing is an important tool in both the society we live in and in the process of teaching and learning. Pupils use different tools to find, explore, analyse, exchange and present information responsibly and creatively. They learn how to employ computing to enable rapid access to ideas and experiences from a wide range of sources. Our vision is for all teachers and learners in our school to become confident users of ICT so that they can develop the skills, knowledge and understanding which enables them to use the appropriate resources effectively as powerful tools for teaching & learning, for example beebots, ipads, laptops etc.

Aims

• To enable children to become autonomous, independent users of computing, gaining confidence and enjoyment from their activities

• To develop a federation approach to computing ensuring continuity in all strands of the National Curriculum

• To use computing as a tool to support teaching, learning and management across all areas of the curriculum

• To provide children with opportunities to develop their computing capabilities in all areas specified by the Curriculum.

• To ensure ICT is used, when appropriate, to improve access to learning for pupils with a diverse range of individual needs, including those with SEN and disabilities

• To maximise the use of computing in developing and maintaining links between other schools, the local community including parents and other agencies.

Objectives

In order to fulfil the above aims it is necessary for us to ensure:

• a continuity of experience throughout the schools both within and among year groups

• systematic progression through key stages 1 & 2

• the National Curriculum programmes of study and their associated strands, level descriptions and attainment target are given appropriate coverage – mainly through the use of Purple Mash

• all children have access to a range of ICT resources

• computing experiences are focussed to enhance learning

• cross curricular links are exploited where appropriate

• children's experiences are monitored and evaluated

- that resources and equipment are kept up to date as much as possible

- that staff skills and knowledge are kept up to date

Curriculum Development & Organisation

The national curriculum for computing aims to ensure that all pupils:

- can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation

- can analyse problems in computational terms, and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs in order to solve such problems

- can evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically to solve problems

- are responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology

Purple Mash is to be used to form the medium term plan and short term plans for computing

. Each class is allocated a time in the ICT suite to help aid follow this scheme of work. Each class is also allocated additional time to apply the use of computing to other subject areas.

Teaching & Learning

Teacher's planning is differentiated to meet the range of needs in any class including those children who may need extra support, those who are in line with average expectations and those working above average expectations for children of their age. A wide range of styles are employed to ensure all children are sufficiently challenged:

Children may be required to work individually, in pairs or in small groups according to the nature or activity of the task.

Effective and efficient deployment of ICT resources ICT resources are deployed throughout the school to maximise access, to enhance teaching & learning and to raise attainment.

To enable regular and whole class teaching of computing the school has a laptop trolley which all classes in key stages 1 & 2 use for approximately 1 hour per week to develop their ICT skills. Children also have access to class sets of Ipads, All classrooms have interactive whiteboards available at all times.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

It is our policy will ensure to meet equal opportunities by: - ensuring all children follow the scheme of work for computing (Purple Mash) We will provide curriculum materials and software which are in no way class, gender or racially prejudice or biased

We recognise computing offers particular opportunities for pupils with special educational needs and gifted and/or talented children and /or children with English as an additional language for example. Computing can cater for the variety of learning styles which a class of children may possess.

Internet Safety See separate policy.

Assessment and Monitoring.

Teacher assessments are conducted informally by the class teacher and are used to inform future planning. The attainment of each child will be indicated half termly, using the Purple Mash key skills checklist.

Monitoring

Monitoring computing will enable the subject leader to gain a good overview of the teaching and learning throughout the school. The Subject leader will monitor planning and samples of work in all year groups on a termly basis. Findings will be shared with all staff on termly subject action plan.

Health & Safety

We will operate all ICT equipment in compliance with Health & Safety requirements. Children will also be made aware of the correct way to sit when using the computer and the need to take regular breaks if they are to spend any length of time on computers. Computer rule are also on display within the classrooms for reference along with specific rules for the use of Internet and E-mail. All software loaded on school computer systems must have been agreed with the designated person in the school. All our software is used in strict accordance with the licence agreement. We don't allow personal software to be loaded onto school computers.