

Computing Policy



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Review Frequency	2 Years
Date for Next Review	12.9.24
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Intent

Our computing curriculum aims to inspire creativity, logical reasoning and digital literacy. Through a progressive and practical whole school plan, our children will be given the opportunity of exploring all the elements of the curriculum. It is our hope that this develops curiosity within the subject and that all of our children become responsible and respectful users of technology.

Aims

At Whale Hill Primary School we aim to:

- Provide a relevant, challenging and enjoyable curriculum in computing for all pupils.
- Meet the requirements of the national curriculum programmes of study for computing.
- Use computing and ICT as a tool to enhance learning throughout the curriculum.
- To respond to new developments in technology.
- To equip pupils with the confidence and capability to use ICT and computing throughout their later life.
- To enhance learning in other areas of the curriculum using ICT and computing.
- To develop the understanding of how to use ICT and computing safely and responsibly.

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

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

The Role of the Subject Leader

There is a computing subject leader who is responsible for producing a computing development plan and for the implementation of the computing policy across the school.

- To offer help and support to all members of staff (including teaching assistants) in their teaching, planning and assessment of computing.

- To maintain resources and advise staff on the use of materials, equipment and books.
- To monitor classroom teaching or planning following the schools rolling programme of monitoring.
- To monitor the children's computing work, looking at samples of different abilities.
- To manage the computing budget.
- To lead staff training on new initiatives.
- To attend appropriate in-service training and keep staff up to date with relevant information and developments.
- To have enthusiasm for computing and encourage staff to share this enthusiasm.
- To keep parents and governors informed on the implementation of computing in the school.
- To liaise with all members of staff on how to reach and improve on agreed targets
- To help staff to use assessment to inform future planning.

SEN

At Whale Hill Primary School, we believe that all children have the right to access computing. In order to ensure that children with special educational needs achieve to the best of their ability, it may be necessary to adapt the delivery of the computing curriculum for some pupils. We teach computing to all children, whatever their ability. ICT and computing forms part of the national curriculum to provide a broad and balanced education for all children. Through the teaching of computing we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs. Where appropriate ICT and computing can be used to support SEN children on a one to one basis where children receive additional support. Additionally as part of our dyslexia friendly approach to teaching and learning we will use adapted resources wherever possible such as visual timetables, different coloured backgrounds and screen printouts.

Resources

There are sufficient teaching resources for the computing teaching units in school, which are replaced and renewed as needed. There is one full computer suite with the capacity for one whole class. Each phase has access to 1.5 classes worth of iPads which are preloaded with apps that are needed for the computing curriculum. These iPads are stored within each of the phases.

For some units, school does not own the resources required. The subject leader (Matthew Brown) will liaise with the local computing hub to loan the required equipment at the correct time.

Monitoring/Review

The subject leader (Matthew Brown) is responsible for monitoring the standard of the children's work and the quality of teaching in line with requirements from subject leader meetings, work analysis and lesson observations. As of 2022 work analysis will be from both online and physical work from the children's computing exercise book. The subject leader is also responsible for supporting colleagues in the teaching of computing, for being informed about current developments in the subject, and for providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school.

Health and Safety (if appropriate)

The school is aware of the health and safety issues involved in children's use of ICT and computing.

All fixed electrical appliances in school are tested by an LA contractor every five years and all portable electrical equipment in school is tested by an external contractor every twelve months. It is advised that staff should not bring their own electrical equipment in to school but if this is necessary, then the equipment must be pat tested before being used in school. This also applies to any equipment brought in to school by, for example, people running workshops, activities, etc. and it is the responsibility of the member of staff organising the workshop, etc. to advise those people. All staff should visually check electrical equipment before they use it and take any damaged equipment out of use. Damaged equipment should then be reported to the senior site technician, bursar or head teacher who will arrange for repair or disposal.

- Children should not put plugs into sockets or switch the sockets on.
- Trailing leads should be made safe behind the equipment
- Liquids must not be taken near the computers
- Magnets must be kept away from all equipment
- E-safety guidelines will be set out in the e-safety policy & AUP
- Drink must not be close by any electrical equipment.