

St Edmund's Catholic Primary School

Computing Policy

"A learning community, celebrating Christ in all, building a kingdom of love, hope and joy."

As a Catholic school we recognise in everyone the dignity and beauty of the person, made in the image of God. We value each individual and respect them regardless of their background and circumstances because they are our brothers and sisters in the family of God, and we are called to love and value everyone.

Introduction

The use of Computing is an integral part of school life at St Edmund's Catholic Primary School. We recognise the importance of preparing pupils for a rapidly changing world in which there now exists a wealth of software and technologies that can be used to communicate, collaborate, express ideas and create digital content. Our pupils are provided with a variety of software and equipment designed to engage learners and to enhance and develop Computing skills and knowledge.

The school believes that Computing:

- is essential in providing pupils with the skills necessary to fully participate in the modern digital world
- promotes initiative, independent and resilient learning
- gives pupils immediate access to a rich source of materials
- presents information in new ways which can help pupils to understand, assimilate and use it more readily
- can motivate and enthuse pupils
- allows pupils to make informed judgements about when and where to use digital technology to its best effect
- offers opportunities for communication and collaboration through group working
- has the flexibility to meet the individual needs and abilities of each pupil.

The purpose of this Computing policy is to state how the school intends to make this provision.

Aims & Objectives

All pupils are entitled to the opportunity to develop Information Technology, Computer Science and Digital Literacy skills. It is important to us that pupils will use digital

technology with enjoyment and confidence, developing practical skills in the use of Computing.

As a school we aim to:

- provide a relevant, challenging and enjoyable Computing curriculum for all children
- meet the requirements of the EYFS curriculum.
- meet the requirements of the National Curriculum programmes of study for Computing at Key Stages 1 and 2
- use Computing as a tool to enhance learning throughout the curriculum
- respond to new developments in technology
- equip pupils with the confidence and skills to use digital tools and technologies throughout their lives.
- develop understanding of how to use computers and digital tools safely and responsibly and to know where to go for help if pupils need it
- meet the individual needs and abilities of each student across the Computing curriculum

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

Planning

As the school develops its provision and expertise to deliver the Computing curriculum, modules will be planned using a variety of resources. Computing topics will be designed to enable pupils to achieve stated objectives of the Computing curriculum.

Delivery

At St Edmund's Catholic Primary School, Computing is taught as a discrete lesson and is also used as an effective teaching tool across all areas of the curriculum. A variety of teaching methods are employed to enable pupils to experience working as an individual, in pairs, in groups and as a whole class. Pupils will engage in practical Computing lessons using a variety of software and equipment designed to engage learners and to enhance and develop Computing skills and knowledge.

Cross Curricular Links

Teachers will ensure that pupils are given the opportunity to apply their learning across the curriculum. Where appropriate, IT and Computing should be used to support learning in other subjects as well as developing Computing knowledge, skills and understanding.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils are provided with the same learning opportunities regardless of social class, gender, culture, race, disability or learning difficulties. As a result, pupils are encouraged to develop positive attitudes towards others. Resources for SEN children and the most able will be made available to support and challenge appropriately.

Resources

St Edmund's Catholic Primary School recognises the need to continually maintain, update and develop its resources and to make progress towards consistent, compatible computer systems by investing in resources that will effectively deliver the objectives of the National Curriculum and support the use of IT, Computer Science and Digital Literacy across the school. The school will ensure that existing Computing equipment and software is continuously reviewed and updated in order to effectively support the delivery of the Computing curriculum. The school engages in a rolling programme of hardware replacement to ensure that school hardware remains functional.

Staff Training

Staff will be given training to implement new packages and equipment used in the delivery of the Computing curriculum. Staff will have their training needs addressed as necessary.

Roles

All members of staff are responsible for logging any Computing-related issues for the technician and Subject Leader to see and monitor. This will allow a log to be kept of recurring issues so that they can be identified and dealt with.

The Computing Subject Leader

The role of the Computing Subject Leader is to:

- oversee the development of a long-term plan for Computing across the school
- review the Computing and Online Safety policies on an annual basis and update as required
- offer help and support to all members of staff in their teaching, planning and assessment of Computing.
- provide colleagues opportunities to observe good practice in the teaching of computing
- work closely with the IT technician to keep software and hardware up to date
- advise staff on the use of digital tools, technologies and resources
- monitor classroom teaching and planning

- monitor progression in Computing, looking at examples of pupils' work of different abilities
- keep up to date with new technological developments and communicate information and developments with colleagues
- lead staff training on new initiatives
- attend appropriate in-service training
- keep parents and governors informed on the implementation of Computing in the school

Teachers

Teachers will plan, teach and assess Computing for the pupils in their class. The planning will be saved in the relevant folders on the staff shared drive, along with any assessments that have been completed. Assessments will be passed to the Subject Leader for monitoring.

Assessment

We assess pupils' work in Computing by making informal judgements as we observe their work during lessons. Each term we make a summary judgement of the work for each pupil as to whether they are working towards, expected or achieving greater depth in the particular curriculum objectives which have been covered that term. Assessment is recorded termly and we use this to plan future work, provide the basis for progress and to communicate with future class teacher(s) and the Computing lead. Computing outcomes are also reported to parents on the annual school report at the end of each academic year.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Subject Leader is responsible for monitoring the standard of work in Computing and the quality of teaching in line with the school's monitoring cycle. This may be through lesson observations, pupil discussion and evaluating pupil work. This enables the Subject Leader to compile a whole school overview of the attainment in Computing and identify next steps to ensure continued progress across the school.

Parental Involvement

Parents are encouraged to support the implementation of IT and Computing where possible by encouraging use of IT and Computing skills at home, both for pleasure and through home-learning tasks. Parents will be made aware of issues surrounding online safety and encouraged to promote this at home. All parents sign a Parent/Carer Acceptable Use Agreement upon joining the school, and this is revised and updated as necessary.

Health and Safety Issues

Any damages to equipment will be reported for the technician to see and any major concerns will be reported to the Computing Subject Leader straight away by the member of staff with the concerns.

Monitoring and Review

The policy will be monitored and reviewed in line with our policy review procedure.

External Links

The school will continue its links with 123 ICT and other agencies, who provide support, equipment and software to the school.

Policy written: **February 2019**

Policy Reviewed: **May 2022**

Policy next to be reviewed: **May 2025**