Computing Policy



Autumn 2020

**Contents**

Rationale

Aims

Guidelines for teaching computing

Assessment and recording

Resources

Inclusion

Review

**Rationale**

Computing is a foundation subject in the National Curriculum. This policy outlines the purpose, nature and management of the computing taught in our school. Computing, technology and computer science is a growing part of society and working life. Computing also ensures that pupils become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world.

**Aims**

Computing in St Giles’ and St George’s Academy aims to give children the basic core skills of technology use. In addition to this we aim for children to have experience of coding, computational thinking, creativity, computer networks, communication collaboration and productivity. We encourage children to be responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology.

We aim to ensure that pupils:

* have basic knowledge and experience of using a variety of hardware and software.
* 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.

**Guidelines for teaching computing**

The academy has identified two parts of computing in our school: core basic skills, and computer science. Computing sessions are planned and taught by the class teacher supported by the Computing leader. For core skills, teachers use the Core Skills 2020 Document, developed by the school, to ensure these skills are woven into the school year. These skills can be taught discretely through other subjects to enhance learning in other areas of the curriculum. This gives children the opportunity to acquire basic skills and knowledge of office programs that might be used in wider life. Teachers then use Rising Stars Switched on Computing units to support further teaching of computing and computer science. Through these units, children will experience coding, computational thinking, creativity, computer networks, communication collaboration and productivity. Computing is taught once a week and technology is used in other areas of the curriculum where possible. The overview for each year group can be found in the Computing Curriculum 2020 Document, which staff use to support planning.

**Assessment and Recording**

The purpose of assessment, recording and reporting in computing is to track progress and identify the next steps in learning for each child. Assessments are made over a period of time and are based on the evidence of more than one activity. Teachers will use the tracking grid (Appendix 1) to assess each child in each unit. At the end of the year, the teacher will assess overall whether the child is working towards, working within or greater depth in computing. This will then be inputted onto DCpro. Examples of children’s work will be presented in the class floor book and saved onto the school shared area where appropriate.

**Resources**

Children are given the opportunity to use different types of hardware, including iPads, laptops and programmable toys, and a wide range of software such as Scratch, Microsoft Excel, Photo editing programs and data collection software. All classrooms have interactive boards with a computer linked to the board. Each member of teaching staff has a laptop to use for school duties. IPad trolleys are available in central key stage areas, each with their own booking form. We have two laptop trolleys stored in a central area, each with their own booking form. All staff are responsible for making sure equipment is charged, returned to the central area and filling in the booking form. It is the responsibility of all staff to inform the computing leader and/or technician if any resources become misplaced or damaged.

**Inclusion**SEND pupils access all of the provision outlined in this policy at their appropriate level. Differentiation of input and activity is used by teaching staff to meet the learning needs of specific pupils.  
  
**Review**   
This policy will be reviewed by the Computing Subject Leader in September 2021

**Appendix 1 – Assessment Grid (Excel)**

