



Computing at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School

Curriculum Intent Statement

The use of information and communication technology is an integral part of the National Curriculum and is a key skill for everyday life. Computers, tablets, programmable robots, digital and video cameras are a few of the tools that can be used to acquire, organise, store, manipulate, interpret, communicate and present information.

At Our Lady of the Assumption, we are developing the future! All children know what their ambitions are and grow up wanting to be software engineers, video game designers, web developers or IT consultants. We want all children to embody our core value; “if you believe, you will achieve”.

We aim to provide a computing curriculum which engages and enthuses individuals and all groups of pupils, enabling them to make good progress and achieve their full potential. The curriculum has been carefully crafted so that our children develop their digital capital.

We want children in our school, to remember their computing lessons and to always embrace the opportunities they are presented with! We use PurpleMash to support our computing teaching, to ensure coverage all skills and delivery of high-quality lessons that lead to exceptional outcomes for all learners.

Bringing the computing curriculum alive and relevant to the children is important at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School.

Curriculum Intent

We believe the computing curriculum promotes curiosity and thirst for learning. It is ambitious and empowers our children to become independent and resilient learners.

We aim to equip our children with not only the minimum statutory requirements of the computing National Curriculum but to prepare them for the opportunities and experiences of later life.

Staff receive regular and up to date training on PurpleMash to ensure staff knowledge and confidence is secure. This ensures all children receive expert high-quality teaching.

In the spring term the whole school enjoyed a fun day to celebrate Safer Internet Day 2019! We spent the week learning how to keep ourselves safe, debating key online safety issues, online safety oracy tasks and designing their very own posters. We feel the day was a success; most children understood the dangers of the internet and how to keep themselves and others safe.

In the autumn term, upper Key Stage Two celebrated National Computer Science Week (9-15th December 2020). Both children and staff were encouraged to broaden their confidence and skills through fun and engaging activities. Staff delivered coding sessions using PurpleMash and received personalised expert support from an engineer (DataSol) in the



classroom. The celebration was proven to be extremely successful; feedback received from children and staff positive.

School have various computing equipment which are available day to day. School recently invested in a class set of Chromebooks which are used regularly in all classrooms for bespoke activities, word processing, data handling, coding and research. All Key Stage One and Two classes have a class iPad, which the children regularly use to carry out research, capture their own photographs and refine skills. In EYFS, children have access to numerous programmable toys, iPads and tablets which children are encouraged to use to broaden their skills and knowledge.

Curriculum Implementation

Across all Key Stages, we focus our teaching on four main themes of computing; connect, code, communicate and collect, which are taught through PurpleMash. These are revisited year on year where pupils progressively build their prior skills and knowledge.

We empower our staff to organise their own year group curriculums under the guidance of our computing subject leader. Teachers are best placed to make these judgements; staff develop year group specific long-term curriculum maps which identify when the different subjects and topics will be taught across the academic year. They link prior knowledge to new learning to deepen children's learning.

We encourage staff to teach a weekly computing lesson. This helps to ensure sufficient time is allocated to computing and that computing subject matter can be revisited frequently. We believe that by crafting our curriculum this way, we improve the potential for our children to retain what they have been taught, to alter their long-term memory and thus improve the rates of progress they make.

Curriculum Impact

The assessment milestones for each phase have been carefully mapped out and further broken down for each year group. This means that skills in computing are progressive and build year on year.

Our staff use PurpleMash computing assessment grids to systematically assess what the children know as the topic progresses and inform their future planning. These formative assessment grids then inform summative assessment judgements for each topic.

Assessment information is collected frequently and analysed as part of our monitoring cycle. This process provides an accurate and comprehensive understanding of the quality of education in computing. Monitoring in computing includes: work sampling, lesson observations and/or learning walks, pupil/parent and/or staff voice.

All of this information is gathered and reviewed. It is used to inform further curriculum developments and provision is adapted accordingly.