

Kingsmoor Lower School



Computing and ICT Policy

Introduction

At Kingsmoor Lower School, we recognise that the use of technology is now a key skill for everyday life, therefore we have a relevant, challenging and enjoyable curriculum to ensure that pupils have the confidence and capability to use technology throughout their lives. We have invested in quality hardware and software and ensure our curriculum provides a rich understanding of the skills needed to enable pupils to use it effectively. The purpose of this policy is to state how the school intends to make this provision.

Aims

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 school's aims are to:

- meet the requirements of the national curriculum programmes of study for ICT and computing;
- use technology as a tool across the curriculum to enhance learning;
- keep up to date with new developments in technology;
- develop an understanding of how to use technology safely and responsibly;
- provide all pupils with challenging and enjoyable opportunities to use ICT and computing.

Resources and access

We are supported by technicians from Partnership Education to maintain, update and develop the computer network and resources within school. Teachers are required to report any faults as soon as they are noticed. Resources, if not classroom based, are located in the ICT room for ease of access by all members of staff. The ICT room can also be used for ICT lessons. Children have the opportunity to use technology independently, in pairs, alongside a TA or in a group with a teacher.

In order to effectively deliver the curriculum and provide opportunities for all children to have equal access to technology resources:

- Every classroom across the school has a computer connected to the school network and an interactive whiteboard with sound
- There are 2 class sets of Chromebooks in school with internet and printer access, which are available to use either in classrooms or in our separate ICT room.
- There are currently 2 iPads and 4 additional tablets available for use in classrooms.

Planning

All pupils in Key Stages 1 and 2 will have a regular taught ICT input (integrated throughout the school year) with equal opportunity to develop their ICT capability.

Our scheme of work for ICT and Computing covers all aspects of the National Curriculum. Throughout Key Stages 1 and 2, we follow the TeachComputing scheme of work, which is designed and developed by specialist computing teachers and supported by the Department for Education. Staff will follow prepared lesson plans, which are available through the school network and online. During planning, teachers should ensure the activities are differentiated for specific groups of children, including arrangements for any pupils with SEND. ICT will also be incorporated into other areas across the curriculum where possible to support, extend and enhance teaching and learning.

Children in EYFS have the opportunity to access a variety of ICT resources in a play-based setting through a range of contexts. Early years learning environments should feature ICT scenarios based on experience in the real world, such as in role play. Children gain confidence, experience as well as language skills through opportunities to use the interactive whiteboard and other technology in the classroom. Recording devices can also support children to develop their communication skills.

Assessment

In a society where technology is rapidly evolving, we prepare all children to use technology both at home and in school by providing a secure knowledge of digital systems. To measure the impact of our curriculum and ensure pupils are progressing, we assess children's ability in lessons to:

- apply their knowledge of information technology to solve problems in their own work
- write and debug their own computer programs
- use technology safely and responsibly

Teachers regularly assess pupils' understanding through observations during lessons and looking at completed work. The class teacher also assesses children after each topic, allowing them to develop lessons further to complement the learning on a more individual level. A variety of assessment styles are used for the different topics to ensure the children's knowledge and understanding as well as practical ability are all assessed. Children complete a summative assessment at the end of some topics, whereas other topics are assessed based on a piece of digital work that the children complete during their lessons.

By the time children leave Kingsmoor, they should appreciate the impact technology has on their lives and their learning. They will be confident and excited to continue their journey with Computing as they make the transition to middle school.

The role of the ICT lead

The ICT and computing lead is responsible for:

- Producing an ICT and computing curriculum plan and for the implementation of the ICT and computing policy across the school.
- Offering help and support to all members of staff in their teaching and assessment of ICT.
- Informing staff of new developments and organise staff training where appropriate.
- Monitoring classroom teaching and assessment.

- Monitoring the children's ICT work, looking at samples of different abilities.
- Reviewing hardware and software provision each year.

Security

- The ICT technician will be responsible for maintaining the network, including regularly updating anti-virus software.

Pupils will be protected from having access to unsuitable materials by:

- close adult supervision by teachers or teaching assistants when using Chromebooks
- Use of a website filter that automatically blocks websites with unsuitable content
- Guidance from members of staff on what websites to access

Parental involvement

Parents are encouraged to support the implementation of ICT and computing where possible by encouraging use of ICT and computing skills during home learning tasks and through the school website. We also endeavour to support parents without technology at home when resources are available.