Computing

Intent, Implementation, and Impact

Intent

At Tollesbury School, we believe that technology is changing the lives of everyone and continuously developing. We aim to equip children to participate in a rapidly changing world where work and leisure activities are increasingly transformed by technology. Children will be taught Computing in a way that ensures a progression of skills and follows a sequence to build on previous learning whilst revisiting and deepening these skills through a spiral curriculum. Through our computing curriculum, we aim to give our children the life skills that will enable them to embrace and utilise new technology in a socially responsible and safe way to flourish. We want our children to become autonomous, independent users of computing technologies, gaining confidence and enjoyment from their activities. Additionally, we want our children to understand the complexities and implications associated with technology. As a school, we model the positive use of computers as we recognise that education is the best tool to shape happy, healthy and respectful digital citizens.

Implementation

Computing at Tollesbury School is explicitly taught throughout the year with opportunities to reinforce and enhance their learning within a range of other curriculum areas using a wide range of software and hardware. We follow a broad and balanced Computing curriculum that builds on previous learning and provides both support and challenge for learners. We use a Computing scheme that ensures a progression of skills and covers all aspects of the Computing curriculum.

Children use iPads, laptops or desktop computers in our Computing suite to access a range of apps and software appropriate to their unit of work. They are also taught key vocabulary linked to computing and key skills for life. Online safety is taught regularly at an age-appropriate level and forms the basis of all computing learning. Teachers use precise questioning and high-quality AFL in class to develop and deepen children's understanding and assess children to identify those children with gaps in their learning to ensure these gaps are closed.

Each year, as a school, we tailor lessons around 'Safer Internet Day' where the children's complete activities to highlight the importance of staying safe online. The school uses a virtual learning platform to promote cross-curricular digital learning at home and at school. Children have individual usernames and passwords, which enables them to learn about personal privacy and security on digital devices.

Impact

By the end of the primary curriculum, children have a good understanding of key computing concepts and can apply this knowledge in a range of contexts. They are confident in their ability to use technology safely and responsibly. By equipping our students with these skills, we aim to prepare them for future academic and professional success in a world that is increasingly dependent on technology.

Here at Tollesbury School, we measure the impact through the following methods:

- observing children's performance during lessons
- assessment for learning and assessment of children against the National Curriculum
- staff meetings allow a dialogue between teachers to measure the progress between year groups and highlight areas for development.
- annual reporting of standards to parents
- climate walks
- subject tracking