



'God Shines within our hearts.
Jesus walks by our side.
The Holy Spirit gives us strength.'

Computing Curriculum - Intent, Implementation and Impact

Intent

At Saint Mary's CVA we aim to prepare our children for the future. The continued prominence of ICT in the home environment and the work place means that our children will need every opportunity to develop their skills and knowledge within this field. Our location as a feeder town to the city of Manchester (home to the first electronic stored-program computer) means that future employment opportunities will require a strong understanding and competence within the computing curriculum. By providing a high quality, knowledge rich computing curriculum, we are equipping our children with the creativity to understand and change the world, whilst keeping up to date with this evolving field.

Computing has deep links to mathematics, science, and design technology. We aim to provide our children with the opportunities to apply their knowledge and understanding of the computing curriculum to other curriculum areas: using a range of technologies and software on a daily basis. Ultimately, we are providing our children with confidence, fluency and a mastery of skills and knowledge as they develop their ability to apply the computing curriculum across a wide platform of subject areas.

It is our belief that progress and understanding must be underpinned by a knowledge of online safety. Our *Online Safety and Acceptable Use Policy* outlines our commitment to provide our children with a safe environment to apply the skills and knowledge we teach. We believe that the work we provide in this area develops our children's understanding and sense of responsibility to report inappropriate content that they may witness whilst using technology.

Implementation

Our computing curriculum is intended to be engaging and exciting for our pupils. It is designed so that all children regardless of background, ability and additional needs can flourish and become the very best version of themselves. We have designed our curriculum to be taught over a two year cycle due to our mixed age group classes. Throughout this cycle the children in each class will be taught the required national curriculum outcomes for their year group, whilst revising previously taught elements.

Our computing curriculum covers three main strands: computer science, information technology and digital literacy. Within computer science we teach children how to code or program but in addition to this, our children are also encouraged to think outside of the box and use their problem solving skills to advance their knowledge and promote a distinct way of thinking. Information



technology adapts and develops the child's ability to finding things out; exchanging and sharing information and reviewing, modifying and evaluating work. This is encouraged not only through our well planned computing lessons but through a cross curricular approach. Clicker 7 is applied in English lessons to give children opportunities to review and edit their writing; children use spreadsheets to collate data in science and maths lessons; PowerPoint and Word documents are frequently used when the children plan their weekly key stage and class worship and we use iPads to edit images and create multimedia documents during drama and art lessons. This demonstrates a confidence and independence that we encourage in our children as they freely choose to apply these resources on a daily basis. This would not be possible without digital literacy. From an early age our children are encouraged to think about alternative ways to express themselves and often that comes hand in hand with the children's ability to decide what form of digital content they would like to use. However none of these elements would be possible to teach without them being underpinned by a secure knowledge of online safety. Our school addresses this during each lesson and through various events throughout the academic year. All online safety measures are communicated with staff within our school.

As a school we endeavour to promote the appropriate use of vocabulary and the retention of knowledge. A way in which we do this is by developing knowledge mats for our children to use. These include a progression of accurate vocabulary and important sticky knowledge associated with each block of the computing curriculum.

Impact

We understand the expectations for each year group and therefore strive to ensure that our children's attainment is in line or exceeding their potential. We use teacher judgement and termly assessments to ensure that all of our children make at least good progress and are on track for the end of the year. Ultimately, we believe that our computing curriculum will ensure that our pupils are competent and safe users of ICT; academically prepared for the rest of their educational journey and develop them into future role models and innovators.