All things are possible for those who believe. (Mark 9:23)

Learning together we grow in faith.

Curriculum Statement – Computing

Intent

At Little Heaton CE Primary School, we aim to prepare our learners for their future by giving them the opportunities to gain knowledge and develop skills that will equip them for an ever changing digital world. Knowledge and understanding of ICT is of increasing importance for children's future both at home and for employment.
Our computing curriculum focuses on a progression of skills in digital literacy, computer science, information technology and online safety to ensure that children become competent in safely using, as well as understanding, technology. These strands are revisited repeatedly through a range of themes during children's time in school to ensure the learning is embedded and skills are successfully developed. Our intention is that computing also supports children's creativity and cross curricular learning to engage children and enrich their experiences in school. Computing has deep links with mathematics, science and design and technology and provides insights into both natural and artificial systems. Building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content. Weaving through all of our computing teaching is a commitment to enhancing and promoting our core Christian values of perseverance, creativity and responsibility.

Implementation

Our whole curriculum is shaped by our school vision which aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability or additional needs, to flourish to become the very best version of themselves they can possibly be. We teach the National Curriculum, supported by a clear skills and knowledge progression. This ensures that skills and knowledge are built on year by year and sequenced appropriately to maximise learning for all children. We use the Purple Mash scheme of work as the basis of learning, to ensure progression and breadth and depth of coverage across the three strands of computing. In addition, we supplement and adapt the scheme to suit the needs of our children and context and as new applications or technologies become available to us. Purple Mash is an easy to use platform for pupils, parents and staff and supports learning of not only core computing skills, but use of technology to support the curriculum.

To ensure a broad range of skills and understanding, computing is taught across three main strands: digital literacy, computer science and information technology. As part of information technology, children learn to use and express themselves and develop their ideas through ICT for example writing and presenting as well as exploring art and design using multimedia. Within digital literacy, children develop practical skills in the safe use of ICT and the ability to apply these skills to solving relevant, worthwhile problems for example understanding safe use of internet, networks and email. In computer science we teach children to understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including algorithms and data representation.

At Little Heaton CE, we give children access to a wide range of good quality resources and provide cross curricular opportunities for children to apply their computing knowledge and skills. Online safety procedures are clearly and regularly communicated with all staff and parents.

Across both key stages children use laptops, iPads and programming devices such as Beebots, Lego We/Do2 and Purple Mash, to consolidate computing across the curriculum.

Children also have access to Purple Mash and Times Tables Rockstars, which they can access from home and in school in order to develop their skills further strengthening our home/school learning bond. They also have access to their 365 Outlook account which includes Teams On-line Remote learning platform (RLP). This was used extensively during the summer lockdown of 2020 and is now part of our home/school learning package that includes interactive resources for spelling and reading.

Impact

By the time a child leaves Little Heaton CE Primary they will:

- Be competent and safe users of ICT with an understanding of how technology works.
- Have developed skills to express themselves and be creative in using digital media
- Be equipped to apply their skills in computing to different challenges going forward.