



# Computing Policy

Reviewed: September 2021

Headteacher	Mrs L Brookes	Date	
Chair of Governors	Mr M Bogg	Date	

Next Review: 08/2022

## **Introduction**

This policy sets out Purple Mash School's aims and strategies for the successful delivery of Computing. This policy should be read in conjunction with other relevant school policies such as the Safeguarding, Equal Opportunities, Curriculum, Finance, Teaching & Learning, SEND and Assessment policies. The policy has been developed by the Computing Leader (Mr Teacher) in consultation with the SENCO, Leadership Team and teachers. Guidance from consultants and pupil, parent and staff voice questionnaires have shaped and will continue to help shape this policy. This policy is based on government recommended/statutory programmes of study. Due to the fast pace of technology innovation and constantly emerging trends, it is recommended that this policy is reviewed, at minimum, at the start of every academic cycle.

## **Aims**

Purple Mash School believes that every child should have the right to a curriculum that champions excellence; supporting pupils in achieving to the very best of their abilities. We understand the immense value technology plays not only in supporting the Computing and whole school curriculum but overall in the day-to-day life of our school. We believe that technology can provide: enhanced collaborative learning opportunities; better engagement of pupils; easier access to rich content; support conceptual understanding of new concepts and can support the needs of all our pupils.

Our aims:

- Provide an exciting, rich, relevant and challenging Computing curriculum for all pupils.
- Enthuse and equip children with the capability to use technology throughout their lives.
- Give children access to a variety of high quality hardware, software and unplugged resources.
- Instil critical thinking, reflective learning and a 'can do' attitude for all our pupils, particularly when engaging with technology and its associated resources.
- Teach pupils to become responsible, respectful and competent users of data, information and communication technology.
- Teach pupils to understand the importance of governance and legislation regarding how information is used, stored, created, retrieved, shared and manipulated.
- Equip pupils with skills, strategies and knowledge that will enable them to reap the benefits of the online world, whilst being able to minimise risk to themselves or others.
- Use technology imaginatively and creatively to inspire and engage all pupils, as well as using it to be more efficient in the tasks associated with running an effective school.
- Provide technology solutions for forging better home and school links.
- Utilise computational thinking beyond the Computing curriculum.
- Exceed the minimum government recommended/statutory guidance for programmes of study for Computing and other related legislative guidance (online safety).

## **Curriculum**

As a school, we have chosen the Purple Mash Computing Scheme of Work from Reception to Year 6. The scheme of work supports our teachers in delivering fun and engaging lessons which help to raise standards and allow all pupils to achieve to their full potential. We are confident that the scheme of work more than adequately meets the national vision for Computing. It provides immense flexibility, strong cross-curricular links and integrates perfectly with the 2Simple Computing Assessment Tool. Furthermore, it gives excellent supporting material for less confident teachers.

## **Early Years**

We aim to provide our pupils with a broad, play-based experience of Computing in a range of contexts. We believe the following:

- Early Years learning environments should feature ICT scenarios based on experience in the real world, such as in roleplay.
- Pupils gain confidence, control and language skills through opportunities to 'paint' on the interactive board/devices or control remotely operated toys.
- Recording devices can support children to develop their communication skills. This is especially useful for children who have English as an additional language.

## **Key Stage 1**

- Understand what algorithms are, how they are implemented as programs on digital devices, and that programs execute by following a sequence of instructions.
- Write and test simple programs.
- Organise, store, manipulate and retrieve data in a range of digital formats.
- Communicate safely and respectfully online, keeping personal information private, and recognise common uses of information technology beyond school.

## **Key Stage 2**

- Design and write programs that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems; solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts.
- Use sequence, selection and repetition in programs; work with variables and various forms of input and output; generate appropriate inputs and predicted outputs to test programs.
- Use logical reasoning to explain how a simple algorithm works and to detect and correct errors in algorithms and programs.
- Understand computer networks including the internet; how they can provide multiple services, such as the worldwide web; and the opportunities they offer for communication and collaboration.
- Describe how Internet search engines find and store data; use search engines effectively; be discerning in evaluating digital content; respect individuals and intellectual property; use technology responsibly, securely and safely.
- Select, use and combine a variety of software (including internet services) on a range of digital devices to accomplish given goals, including collecting, analysing, evaluating and presenting data and information.

## **Assessment**

- Pupil attainment is assessed using the Computing Assessment Tool for Years 1 to 6. The tool enables staff to accurately identify attainment of pupils through the detailed exemplification it has for each key learning intention.
- Teachers assess children within lessons where possible.
- Teachers ensure children are confident at saving their work to create an online portfolio.

## **Resources**

- All resources are procured with the underlining considerations of value: The extent at which the resource impacts on learning and the material cost of this. Protocol details for procurement can be found in the school finance policy.

- A range of resources is available which successfully supports delivering the Computing curriculum and enables all learners to reach their full potential.
- Resources are suitably maintained and replenished when needed, which is overseen by the Computing Leader
- Audits of school resources are conducted regularly by the Computing Leader, which informs bidding for budgets allocations.
- The Computing Leader keeps up to date with the latest technology resources (HelloWorld magazine, Core 4 Computing, NCCE) and will make informed decisions about possible procurement of them through their own research.
- Suggestions for getting the very best out of the resources are made available to teaching and support staff by the Computing Leader.

### **Inclusion**

At Purple Mash School, we aim to enable all children to achieve to their full potential. This includes children of all abilities, social and cultural backgrounds, those with disabilities, EAL speakers and SEN statement and non-statemented. We place particular emphasis on the flexibility technology brings to allowing pupils to access learning opportunities, particularly pupils with SEN and disabilities. With this in mind, we will ensure additional access to technology is provided throughout the school day.

### **Monitoring, Evaluation and Feedback**

Monitoring standards of teaching and learning within Computing is the primary responsibility of the Computing Leader. All teachers are expected to update the assessment grids each half term. All teachers are also expected to ensure children are confident at saving their work on Purple Mash in order to create an online portfolio of work.

### **Monitoring will be achieved through:**

- Learning walks
- Observations
- Pupil voice
- Teacher voice

### **Health and Safety**

Purple Mash School takes all necessary measures to ensure both staff and pupils are aware of the importance of health and safety. Both staff and pupils are trained to handle electrical equipment correctly including how to power off and on. Pupils are reminded about the dangers of electricity and the danger signs to look out for. Adequate displays and warning signs are strategically placed around the school to reinforce health and safety.