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Coton-in-the-Elms C of E Primary School

Computing Policy

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Reviewed by: Mrs J Smith

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INTENT

1. Introduction

The national curriculum for computing aims to ensure that all pupils:

- can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation
- 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.

2. Ethos & Aims

At Coton in the Elms Primary School we believe a high-quality computing education equips pupils to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world. Computing has deep links with mathematics, science, and design and technology, and provides insights into both natural and artificial systems. The core of computing is computer science, in which pupils are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work, and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content. Computing also ensures that pupils become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world.



IMPLEMENTATION

3. How is it Taught?

Computing is taught in different methods across the school.

The EYFS children have daily access to the class technology. Children are encouraged to access learning on the interactive whiteboard and technology is linked into their adult led activities. The children have access to other forms of technology – cameras, listening station, pretend phones and keyboards during their ‘exploring’ time.

All children in KS1 have fortnightly access to the laptops. These lessons are planned as ‘skills’ lessons. This is when the objectives in the NC is taught and the children have opportunities to practice the skills.

In KS2 the children have weekly access to the laptops. The children are taught in mix aged classes. These lessons are planned as ‘skills’ lessons. This is when the objectives in the NC are taught and the children have opportunities to practice the skills.

All classes following the main plans from Purple Mash to cover the National Curriculum Objectives. To embed these objectives, the children, have access to the laptops during other times in the timetable, so cross-curricular lessons can be planned for.

The Purple Mash planning highlights all key vocabulary the children will be taught during each subject. This vocabulary will be promoted by the member of staff teaching the lesson.

4. Planning & Progression

To ensure whole school consistency in Computing Coton in the Elms Primary School has subscribed into a programme called Purple Mash. Purple Mash is a comprehensive suite of online learning tools and content, designed to be used by Primary aged children in the classroom and at home.

The online programme is a new creative online space from 2Simple. Purple Mash hosts exciting cross- curriculum focused activities, creative tools, programs and games to support and inspire creative learning every day.

Purple Mash has an in-depth teaching section, where all Computing National Curriculum objectives are planned for in pre-planned lessons.

Purple Mash Computing planning progresses and builds upon previous years’ skills, and also embeds new skills throughout the years.



5. Support for SEND Pupils & Inclusion

At Coton in the Elms Primary School, we teach computing to all children. Computing forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to every child. Through our computing teaching, we provide learning opportunities that enable pupils to make good progress. We strive hard to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, those with special gifts and talents, and those learning English as an additional language, and we take all reasonable steps to achieve this.

6. Cross Curricular Links

At Coton in the Elms Primary School we teach a rich and purposeful curriculum. We have taken on a thematic approach to our planning and endeavour to link the National Curriculum objectives wherever possible.

The teachers use the opportunities of the thematic planning to embed the skills the children acquire during the skills lessons.

IMPACT

7. Assessment & Recording

At Coton in the Elms Primary School we assess the children's learning throughout the lesson, as part of our formative assessment. Any misconceptions will be addressed and supported in the lesson. This is proven to have the highest impacted on the outcomes for the children.

For our summative assessment we use ALPs and this is regularly updated to ensure the children are achieving the National Expectation for Computing. See the Assessment Policy for overview.

8. Monitoring

Learning walks

The Computing Lead will monitor the teaching of Computing by conducting learning walks to assess the children's knowledge and understanding during the 'skills' lessons.

Work sampling

When applicable the children will save their work to their personal Purple Mash space. The Computing Lead will look at a sample of this work and will use it to mark against the ALPs assessment.



July 2020

Pupil Conferences

The children are the voice of Coton – in – the – Elms Primary School and we value their views to their learning. The Computing Lead will conduct opportunities for the children to discuss their views on technology, the teaching of computing and our school vision of computing.

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