

Computing



Intent:

All pupils at Castlemorton CE Primary School have the right to have rich, deep learning experiences that balance all the aspects of computing. With technology playing such a significant role in society today, we believe 'Computational thinking' is a skill children must be taught if they are to be able to participate effectively and safely in this digital world. A high-quality computing education equips pupils to use 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. At Castlemorton CE Primary School, the core of computing is Computer Science in which pupils are introduced to a wide range of technology, including laptops, iPads and interactive whiteboards, allowing them to continually practice and improve the skills they learn. This ensures they become digitally literate so that they are able to express themselves and develop their ideas through information and computer technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world.

We teach a curriculum that enables children to become effective users of technology who can:

- Understand and apply the essential principles and concepts of Computer Science, including logic, algorithms and data representation;
- Analyse problems in computational terms, and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs in order to solve such problems;
- Evaluate and apply information technology analytically to solve problems;
- Communicate ideas well by utilising appliances and devices throughout all areas of the curriculum.

Internet Safety

Castlemorton CE Primary School takes internet safety extremely seriously. We have an E- Safety Policy that provides guidance for teachers and children about how to use the internet safely. Every class participates in lessons on e-safety and children understand how to stay safe when using technology.

You may find the following links useful to help your child stay safe online at home:

Understanding social networking sites and how to keep your children safe.	Common sense media
Great advice to help keep your children safe online.	Think U Know
Safety information for the whole family.	Microsoft Protect
Report any illegal content on the internet.	Internet Watch
Keep up to date with any e-safety issues.	ChildNet
Safety information for parents.	Safer Internet
Information on gaming safely with resources for parents and children.	Get Game Smart
Understand and share the world of social networking websites with your children.	Make it Secure

Implementation:

There is planned 2 yearly overview of teaching and learning, divided into units that cover key computing topics. This is reviewed, adapted and can flex with the needs of the children.

Purple Mash is the chosen platform used to implement much of the computing curriculum however other technology and resource materials are used to provide a rich diet around the computing curriculum.

A detailed skills progression maps out key skills expected by the end of each key phase in school and is used alongside the detailed scheme of work within Purple Mash.

As part of the planning process, teachers plan the following:

- An elicitation task – to determine a starting point for lesson planning. This can check the children’s general knowledge about a computing topic or prior learning
- A cycle of lessons for each unit, which carefully plans for progression of skills and depth of understanding.
- Challenge questions for pupils to apply their learning in a philosophical/open manner.

Impact:

Our Computing curriculum is high quality, well thought out and is planned to demonstrate progression. If children are keeping up with the curriculum, they are deemed to be making good or better progress. In addition, we measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- A reflection on standards achieved against the planned outcomes
- Formative and summative assessments against expected outcomes
- Tracking of knowledge in pre and post learning e.g. from elicitation tasks/quizzes
- Pupil discussions about their learning

Verbal feedback is provided within lessons with misconceptions addressed verbally. Formative assessments are made against key questions and these assessments inform planning, support end of unit summative assessments and end of year reports.