

COMPUTING POLICY



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Approved at SLT	May 2023
Approved at School Standards Committee	May 2023
Policy review cycle	Annual
Next Policy review date	May 2024

Grange Park Primary School Computing Policy

Introduction to the policy

Intent

Computers are changing the lives of everyone. Through teaching computing, we intend to equip children to participate in a rapidly-changing world where work and leisure activities are increasingly transformed and enhanced by technology. Computing skills and knowledge are a major factor in enabling children to be confident, creative and independent learners, which is what we want for all pupils at Grange Park.

We intend to give our pupils the knowledge and understanding that will be essential for a future which is going to be heavily reliant on computers and technology along with the necessary skills and experience to access the opportunities and challenges that they will encounter. This includes enabling them to be independent critical thinkers who can use their knowledge and understanding to problem solve.

At Grange Park, we believe it essential that children learn how to use a wide range of technologies and are exposed to a variety of software to build their knowledge and confidence in computing. It is our intention to ensure that all our pupils receive this exposure and become familiar with many areas of computing through the teaching of our curriculum.

Implementation

To ensure that we achieve our intent, at Grange Park we teach the computing curriculum by following the *NCCE Teach Computing Scheme*. By following this scheme of work, we ensure that all children receive full coverage of the curriculum in a progressive way that builds on their knowledge and skills as they progress through school.

All year groups teach six modules per year, with six lessons in each module that cover a wide range of technologies and skills. Children will have the opportunity to access various practical activities along with written work depending on the module and what the learning goals are.

Teachers will ask engaging questions and encourage children to ask questions based on their learning to further develop their skills, knowledge and understanding. Assessment for learning will take place during lessons to ensure that misconceptions are addressed and so that the children make good progress in their computing lessons.

Computing also covers online safety (see Online Safety Policy for detail) which is taught to the pupils regularly to ensure they know how to use digital technology safely and responsibly at school and at home. At Grange Park, online safety is taught on its own twice a term, but key online safety messages and reminders are also fed into computing lessons to ensure that it is at the forefront of our pupils' mind.

Our main aims for implementation are as follows:

- To meet the requirements of the new national curriculum programmes of study for computing.
- To enable children to become autonomous, independent users of digital technology, gaining confidence and enjoyment from their activities.
- To use computing as a tool to support teaching and learning across all areas of the curriculum, creating cross curricular links where possible.
- To provide children with opportunities to develop their computing capabilities in all areas specified by the Curriculum.
- To use computing to develop partnerships beyond school between other schools and parents using blogs and social media.
- To ensure children have a sound understanding of the importance of online safety.
- To have a whole school approach to computing which ensures continuity and progression for all pupils.

Impact

The impact of our curriculum is that throughout their time at Grange Park, our pupils will demonstrate progression in their computing skills and complete a variety of tasks and projects related to the computing curriculum.

Children will build on skills learnt in previous year groups and leave Grange Park with a broad understanding of computing and the ability to use their computing skills to help them solve problems and achieve outcomes. These skills will also translate into other areas of the curriculum including mathematics, science, design technology and art.

Finally, our pupils will leave with a solid understanding of online safety, the risks which they may face and how to deal with these risks (see our online safety policy for more detail).

Roles and Responsibilities

Computing Coordinator

There is a designated computing co-ordinator to oversee the planning, delivery and monitoring of computing within the school. The coordinator will be responsible for:

- Raising standards in computing as a national curriculum subject.
- Facilitating the use of digital technology across the curriculum in collaboration with all subject coordinators.
- Providing or organising training to keep staff skills and knowledge up to date.
- Advising colleagues about effective teaching strategies, managing equipment and purchasing resources.
- Monitoring the delivery of the computing curriculum and reporting to SLT on the current status of the subject.
- Providing long terms plans for computing and online safety.
- Monitoring computing across EYFS, KS1 and KS2.

The Classroom Teacher

It is the responsibility of each teacher to plan and teach appropriate computing activities. It is also the responsibility of the class teacher to ensure attainment and progress is recorded for computing, for their class. The class teacher is also responsible for differentiating lessons and activities to suit the needs of their children.

Monitoring

Monitoring computing will enable the coordinator to gain a good overview of the teaching and learning throughout the school. This will assist the school in the self evaluation process identifying areas of strength as well as those

for development. In monitoring the quality of computing teaching and learning, the coordinator will:

- Hold discussions with teachers regarding any difficulties delivering the curriculum.
- Monitor work once per year to ensure that computing is being delivered effectively across the whole school.
- As part of the monitoring cycle within Grange Park Primary School, an annual Co-ordinator Curriculum Review for Computing is conducted, and feedback shared during the following half termly Pupil Outcome Meeting. There is also staff meeting time assigned to Computing , following the above, whereby any areas for development can be discussed and appropriate CPD offered.

Planning

At Grange Park, we follow the *NCCE Teach Computing Scheme*. This scheme maps out the modules and lessons for all year groups from Year 1 to Year 6 and includes individual lessons plans, lesson resources, lesson slides and assessment opportunities. Teachers are expected to teach all these lessons for their year group in the correct sequence and will be given two full days per half term to complete the modules. Computing lessons will be block taught over two days to ensure that there is enough equipment for the class to use and to help the children secure the necessary skills to complete the modules.

With regards to online safety, a whole school long term plan is in place and must be followed by each year group. This plan has been created to allow for progression through the school and will ensure all children receive online safety lessons regularly. The plan is comprised of two discrete online safety lessons per term, per year group, equalling six per school year. This plan also states that online safety must be discussed with the children whenever they use digital technology.

The road map for *NCCE Teach Computing Scheme* shows an overview of all the units that the children will cover in each year group (see Appendix A).

Children in EYFS will be exposed to age-appropriate technologies throughout their learning to increase their familiarity around technology and so they can start to develop skills related to the computing curriculum.

Assessment and Reporting

Pupils' computing capability will be assessed at the end of each term. Pupils' progress and attainment will be assessed by their class teacher at the end of each term and inputted into Cornerstones Maestro (the school's assessment tool). This will be a teacher assessment based on the outcome of work completed in modules along with observations made by the class teacher during lessons.

Parents will be informed of their child's progress at the end of each academic year in their report home.

Health and Safety

It is imperative that all electrical equipment is kept in good working order. To ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff the following guidelines must be adhered to:

- Children are not allowed to move laptop or iPad trolleys.
- Leads must be kept as tidy as possible to prevent trips.
- Equipment is to be situated away from water.
- Pupils must always be supervised when using electrical equipment.
- Pupils will not be allowed to carry heavy equipment.
- Seating and work stations should ensure safe and comfortable conditions for pupils using computers.
- Adequate levels of lighting and ventilation should be ensured at all times.

Equality

Our delivery of the computing curriculum will ensure that it can be accessed by all children. The individual needs of children, with or without SEND, will be met in the planning and teaching of lessons so that every child has the same opportunities throughout EYFS, KS1 and KS2.

Resources

The computing co-ordinator is responsible for storage of subject resources. These resources must be easily available to all staff, at all times during the school day. Laptops and iPads are excluded from this list, as their storage and maintenance is the responsibility of the onsite IT Technician. The downloading of apps and the installation of software are also the responsibility of the on-site IT Technician.

The computing coordinator will be responsible for checking that teaching staff have the software, or apps needed to deliver the curriculum effectively and act upon this is appropriately.

Online safety

See Online Safety Policy.

Appendix A - Overview of NCCE Teach Computing Units

