Golborne St. Thomas' C of E J & I School

Computing Policy

A journey in faith, arriving with hope.

St. Thomas' School vision:

To ensure the children are highly valued by all members of the school community.

St. Thomas' creates a culture of high aspirations by making the school the heart of the community. We aim to develop a culture of curiosity and creativity by unleashing our children's God-given potential to make a difference in our locality and beyond.

Our parents, staff and governors see and understand the individual talents of each pupil and the opportunities provided. We openly celebrate and reward children's successes and achievements.

To inspire all children through a broad, balanced and engaging curriculum enabling every child to succeed.

We create an ethos where everyone is an explorer and an active participant. Children are challenged and encouraged to thrive in all areas. Our aim is to nurture talent and ensure children are equipped to live life in all its fullness.

Children experience a wide range of high-quality lessons and enrichment activities daily. We recognise that children are naturally curious; therefore, child-led learning is developed through their questions.

To nurture children's wellbeing to ensure healthy mind, body and spirit.

At St. Thomas' values are at the heart of all we do. We provide a safe, supportive environment which empowers children to grow and develop their self-worth, self-esteem and self-respect. Our unique learners are resilient and are willing to take big risks to make big leaps.

Values are actively promoted, modelled, and celebrated by all. Our inspiring curriculum and pastoral care teaches children the importance of healthy lifestyles: physically, mentally and spiritually.

Computing Policy

Golborne St. Thomas' provides pupils with a creative and flexible computing curriculum that will equip all children with the computing and digital skills they need thrive in the future. The computing curriculum also ensures that pupils become digitally literate (able to use technology, express themselves and develop their ideas fully) at a level suitable to be active participants in a digital world.

This policy reflects the requirements of the National Curriculum programmes of study, which all maintained schools in England must teach.

It also reflects requirements for inclusion and equality as set out in the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice 2014 and Equality Act 2010, and refers to curriculum-related expectations of governing boards set out in the Department for Education's Governance Handbook.

Computing Overview

The computing curriculum is aimed at developing 6 areas of pupil knowledge and learning:

- *Programming: encouraging the children to understand coding and how computer software works and is created*
- *Computational thinking: developing the use of logical thought within the pupil (e.g. programming a robot to navigate through a maze)*
- *Creativity: Pupils to enjoy using computers to create works of art (e.g. using drawing packages or creating videos)*
- *Computer networks: pupils learn about how computers interact and develop into ever larger networks (e.g. the World Wide Web)*
- *Communication/Collaboration: how to communicate safely electronically (e.g. emailing and cyber-safety)*
- *Productivity: collecting and analysing data, creating useful products (e.g. production of spreadsheets and class yearbooks)*

In each year, there is also opportunity to develop and improve their basic computing skills of word processing, presentation skills and spreadsheet manipulation.

Computing at Golborne St. Thomas'

Our objectives are:

- That pupils can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation
- That pupils can analyse problems in computational terms, and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs in order to solve such problems
- That pupils can evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically to solve problems
- That pupils are responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology

At Golborne St. Thomas', there is a dedicated STEM suite with approximately 30 laptops for whole class provision. There are also four iPad trollies, one for the whole of Key Stage 1, one in year 4 for lower Key Stage 2 and one each in year 5 and 6.

Governors

It is the statutory duty of the governors to ensure that the school follows its responsibilities to meet the needs of children within history in accordance with the National Curriculum.

Further Information

For full details and to answer any further questions you may have, please consult our School Information Report, found on our website.

Policy written: November 2022

Review date: November 2023