

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Primary School



Computing Policy

“Aim high – live life to the full”

Written By	E. Shaw and G. Shaw
Ratified by Governors	
Date for review	September 2018
Signed Chair of Governors	
Signed Headteacher	C Davey

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Primary School

Introduction

Our **pupils will continue to develop high levels of online confidence and computing capability**, which will ultimately support our commitment to **higher standards** and delivering **an education that equips learners for life**.

At Blessed Sacrament Catholic Primary School our vision is to create motivated 'life-long' learners through the use of Computing to enhance and extend learning and teaching across the whole curriculum. As Computing is continually developing and new technologies emerging, we as a school will strive to give all pupils the skills to prepare them for a future in which Computing is an integral part of society.

It is a statutory requirement of the 2016 National Curriculum that Computing should be taught in KS1 and KS2.

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, provides insights into both natural and artificial systems and develops thinking and creative skills.

The core of Computing is computer science, in which pupils are taught the principles of algorithms, programming and computational thinking, how digital systems work and how to be competent creators of digital content.

Therefore, building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content.

Computing is concerned with how computers and computer systems work and how they are designed and programmed. Pupils studying Computing will gain an understanding of computational systems of all kinds, whether or not they include computers. Computational thinking provides insights into many areas of the curriculum, and influences work at the cutting edge of a wide range of disciplines.

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; becoming *digital citizens* in a digital world.

Running throughout the Computing curriculum is reference to online safety which compliments the discrete teaching of online safety units.

Aims and Objectives

In addressing the requirements of the National Curriculum in England it is the aim of Blessed Sacrament Primary School that all pupils shall receive equal instruction in Computing. They should be given the opportunity to use it creatively in its own right and in support of their learning in other curriculum areas.

The aims of Computing at Blessed Sacrament Primary School are to:

- Provide a comprehensive and well planned program of Computing, ensuring progression and continuity of learning across the age ranges.
- Ensure all pupils can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including logic, algorithms, programming and problem solving.
- Enable pupils to analyse problems in computational terms, and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs in order to solve such problems.
- Ensure pupils can evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically to solve problems.
- Ensure pupils are responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology across a range of subjects.

The Role of the Computing Subject leader

The subject leader will:

- Liaise with staff and support colleagues in the planning and teaching of Computing.
- Liaise with the Head teacher to organise and purchase resources, ensure they are well kept and keep them working effectively.
- Encourage effective Computing teaching in school.

Equal Opportunities and Differentiation

We believe that we should take into account the individual needs of the pupils to ensure equal access to all pupils. Pupils with Special Educational needs including intellectual, emotional, physical or communication difficulties can benefit from Computing. The benefits can include heightened motivation, improvement of the accuracy and appearance of their work, better access to information and the development of creativity.

At Blessed Sacrament we believe in fair and equal opportunities for boys and girls, giving active encouragement, where necessary when undertaking activities. We are careful to avoid stereotyping within curriculum areas.

Foundation Stage Planning

We teach Computing in reception and nursery classes as an integral part of the topics covered during the year.

It is important in the Foundation Stage to give pupils a broad, play-based experience of Computing in a range of contexts, including outdoor play. Computing is not just about computers. Early years learning environments should feature Computing scenarios based on experience in the real world, such as in role play. Pupils gain confidence, control and language skills through opportunities to explore using non-computer based resources. Recording devices can support pupils to develop their communication skills. This is particular useful with pupils who have English as an additional language.

In the Foundation Stage we relate the Computing aspects of the pupils' work to the objectives set in the Early Learning Goals, which underpin the curriculum planning for pupils aged three to five. The pupils have the opportunity to use computers, BeeBots, iPads, and recordable devices.

Computing Planning and Assessment in KS1 and KS2

The Computing curriculum can be thought of as having three distinct aspects:

1. Computer Science
2. Information Technology
3. Digital Literacy

These three aspects of the curriculum will be represented every term for each year group in the delivery of the Computing curriculum.

We teach Computing in Years 1 to 6 as an integral part of the Creative Curriculum topics covered during the year and as discrete units of work.

Rising Stars and Purple Mash are available in the school as schemes of work for the teachers to plan and deliver the Programmes of Study. Teachers use professional judgement to deliver the POS within 6 half termly blocks. The planning is amended according to the needs of each year group.

The computer science and information technology parts of the curriculum will be supported by a range of resources including:

- a range of age appropriate educational iPad applications such as BeeBots, Daisy the Dinosaur, iMovie, Pic Collage, Book Creator, Reading Plus and Google Earth.
- computer software such as Scratch, Education City, My Maths and Purple Mash.

Assessment

Evidence gathered throughout the units is assessed and recorded using SIMS half termly by the class teacher. The pupils' work in Computing is assessed continuously throughout the topics that are taught.

Evidence gathered throughout the units and creative curriculum is assessed and recorded half termly by the class teacher. The assessment is now monitored and evaluated through samples of three indicator pupils' work and pictures of the pupils, evidencing what they are learning. This evidence is submitted into class folders in the shared drive. Each piece should be labelled with the child's name, area of learning and ability.

A range of abilities are usually targeted and every pupil in the school will be assessed throughout the academic year. Teacher assessments, including the end of year level achieved, are reported to parents in the annual reports, and assessments are passed on to the next class teacher. Pupils are actively encouraged to use Reading Plus and My Maths to support their English and Maths skills.

Progression

All pupils develop and learn at their own pace.

Progression is assured through a range of increasingly challenging activities covering all areas of Computing, Digital Literacy and Online Safety and embedded in the National Curriculum for England.

Monitoring Computing

The Computing subject leader is responsible for supporting colleagues in the teaching of Computing, for keeping informed about current developments in the subject and for providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school.

Resources

Blessed Sacrament Primary School is equipped with a wide range of equipment to support the teaching of both Computing and other subjects.

These resources include:

- Class teacher laptops and 8 HDTVs.
- Class teacher iPads.
- 32 iPads for the use of the pupils in the Foundation Stage, 96 iPads and 120 Android Tablets for the use of the pupils in Years 1-6.
- 128 laptops for the use of the pupils in Years 1-6.
- A small computer suite of PCs for the use of staff and pupils for intervention groups.

Each class in Years 1-6 has access to laptops and iPads and is allocated at least one slot every week and other slots are available to book on the laptop and iPad trolley timetables.

Technical Support is provided by MGL to ensure all Computing equipment is working effectively.

Online Safety in Computing Activities

Pupils and staff are encouraged to work safely at all times especially when using the Internet. Blessed Sacrament does use a filtered Internet service, however pupils should be accompanied by an adult at all times when using computers, iPads or any other device capable of accessing the Internet while on school premises. Pupils are encouraged to notify their teacher if they come across information or messages that are dangerous, inappropriate, or make them feel uncomfortable.

It is emphasised to the pupils that if anything is occurring (whether online or via mobile phones etc.) that makes them feel uncomfortable it is essential they speak to an adult who can help them. Internet safety days and regular lessons on online safety are included as part of Computing lessons.

Pupils at Blessed Sacrament are taught about cyber bullying – what it is, how to recognise when it occurs and what to do if they think it is happening to them.

To maintain the safety of the computer system, no USB memory sticks or external hard drives can be used in the computers at school by any teachers, staff, visitors or pupils. Pupils may use their personal accounts to access Reading Plus and My Maths accounts to access files at home or school. Staff can access the school server using the remote access at home.

Pupils accessing the Internet

For all information related to this see Blessed Sacrament's Acceptable Use Policies and Online Safety Policy.

Mobile Phones

Pupils in Year 6 are the only pupils allowed to bring a mobile phone in to school. These phones must be handed in to their teacher at the start of every day and teachers should ensure the phones are turned off and safely locked away. They are returned to pupils at the end of the day. No other pupils are permitted to take mobile phones in to school.

School Website and APP

The school has a website (www.bsprimary.com) and a free APP available through the App Store (iPhone) and Play Store (Android). They contain curriculum information, term dates, policies, educational links, Online Safety advice and opportunities to communicate with the school.

Policy Update

The speed and nature of technological development is such that a major update should be undertaken at least every two years.

Elaine Shaw (Computing Team Leader)

To be reviewed – July 2020

Signed Head teacher