Curriculum INTENT statement for the teaching and learning of Computing 2023/24

At St. Martin De Porres Primary School, we are committed to providing our children with a curriculum that has a clear intention and impacts positively upon their needs.

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<tr><td>Intent</td><td colspan="3">When our children leave St. Martin De Porres, we expect them to recognise the importance of Computing as a subject that is influencing our daily lives and will be a part of many aspects of their future learning. Our intention is for pupils to engage in a high-quality computing education that allows them to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world. At the core of our Computing curriculum is computer science, in which children will be taught the principles of information and computation, how digital system work and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Children will be equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems, to understand how these works and to de-bug programs. We aim to develop the information knowledge of children to develop their ideas and express themselves through digital content to support them in their future workplace and as well as become part of a digital world. Alongside this, children will become aware of the ever-changing aspects of a digital world and how to stay safe when using digital technology and understand the importance of keeping their own information safe and how to reach out to those who may be able to help them.
Throughout Key Stage 1 and 2, children have weekly lessons using various programmes of study and resources. Within Early Years, Computing is taught through the children learning about the world around them in their play activities and having access to some digital content. We endeavour to provide additional opportunities for children to use their computing skills in other subjects to create digital content to support their learning across the curriculum.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Underpinned by</td><td>High expectations</td><td>Modelling</td><td>Fluency</td></tr>
<tr><td>All children are expected to succeed and make progress from their starting points.</td><td>Teachers teach the skills needed to succeed in Computing, providing examples of good practice and opportunities for practical application using resources whilst having high expectations.</td><td>Children apply computational thinking and creativity skills to the curriculum to create and adapt digital content.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Implementation</td><td colspan="3">At St. Martin’s we want to create a positive attitude to Computing learning within our classrooms and reinforce an expectation that all children are capable of achieving high standards in Computing. We want to develop children to recognise information technology the importance of this within our lives and how to use it to support their future learning. The children are taught in half termly topic blocks by the class teacher in weekly Computing lessons through the use of Teach Computing and Discovery Coding planning. The planning follows a spiral curriculum approach ensuring that themes in Computing are visited regularly and this consolidates and builds on prior learning building a greater depth of knowledge. This ensures that important vocabulary and knowledge is not forgotten as it is revisited ensuring connections are made throughout their Computing learning each year.
Each year will start with a topic reinforcing and teaching about information technology, the uses and where we find it. Within the rest of the topics, each week, children will have access to activities that will enable them to develop their understanding of information technology further, the uses of it, how to create digital content using technology as well as how to solve problems found in various programs. Activities are scaffolded so children will have additional resources if needed but also access to exploratory tasks to encourage a deeper understanding of a concept, encouraging pupils to apply their learning in different contexts and make connections with other learning experiences. These activities will encourage children to work independently but also work in groups to develop their shared understanding. Children will have access to technology such as laptops, cameras and micro bits to practice and develop these skills. Alongside this, every half term, children will start their computing topic with a lesson about online safety to reinforce and teach children about staying safe while using technology and how to address problems that may arise while using technology in school and at home. These safety themes are highlighted throughout the curriculum to ensure children understand the importance of being safe using technology while learning about other areas of Computing. The online safety follows cross curriculum links with our PSHE curriculum.
Our computing curriculum engages pupils in interactive lessons that allow children to use their exploratory and investigative skills, alongside skills they have learnt in their lessons to create content, or de-bug programs using a variety of resources that they will have access to. They will have opportunities to use and develop these abilities in Computing lessons but also across other lessons when technology can be used in project-based work.</td></tr>
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