

Computing at Laygate Community School

Intent

At Laygate Community Primary School, we believe computing is an essential part of the curriculum and should be a fundamental element of all learning. In a world where technology is continuously advancing and where computers are an integral part of everyday life, we strive to ensure the children from nursery to year 6 are given rich and varied opportunities to develop, use and apply computing and ICT skills and key vocabulary explicitly within computing lessons and across other curriculum subjects. Our aim is to ignite the potential in all children; helping them to become competent and confident users of technology, problem solvers and creative thinkers to prepare them for the society they will live in as adults.

Implementation

Our school is equipped with laptops and iPads for all children, as well as programmable toys, a range of computing software and other ICT equipment to further develop learning.

As part of the National Curriculum's statutory requirements for the computing curriculum, we ensure pupils' computing skills are developed across three key areas: Digital literacy / E-Safety, Basic Skills and Information Technology and Computer Science. Our *Progression of Skills* documents set out what will be taught in each year group for each of the three key strands for the 2014 National Curriculum. When planning, teachers consider the overall learning objective; a focus for the objective and the resulting success criteria.

E-Safety and Online Respect

As the children's safety is paramount to us at Laygate Community School, at the start of the year we teach E-Safety in an enjoyable but sensitive way. E-Safety equips our children with the skills they need to keep themselves safe online so they can experience the Internet positively, safely and responsibly. The children are taught how to use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private; identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies. Children in KS2 are introduced to cyberbullying, age restrictions on social media sites and the risks of spending too long online to prepare them for the modern world. E-Safety is reiterated throughout the year to ensure children remember to follow the S.M.A.R.T rules for online safety.

Basic Skills and Information Technology

Growing up in an ICT-rich environment means that children need to have opportunities to experience and develop skills in its use that will help them make the most of adult life. Basic skills include word processing skills: creating, saving, amending and retrieving files, and editing text and pictures; combining a variety of software; and analysing, evaluating and presenting data and information. Children will use text processing and design and develop their skills in multimedia, sound and motion through engaging class projects.

Computer Science

Through fun and stimulating lessons, our children are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content. The children learn to understand what algorithms are; how they are implemented as programs on digital devices; and that programs execute by following precise and unambiguous instructions. They will be taught to create and debug simple programs and use logical reasoning to predict the behaviour of simple programs. They will use their coding skills to program toys and robots and write programmes for games, puzzles and animated stories.

Impact

The children will understand the relevance of the computing skills they are learning and how they can apply them to other areas of the National Curriculum. Through explicit teaching of computing and by providing opportunities for cross-curricular learning, the children will become digitally literate where they can confidently use, express themselves and develop their ideas through information and communication technology. They will be equipped with the skills and knowledge to use technology effectively and for their own benefit as well as safely and respectfully. Key life skills such as problem-solving, logical thinking and self-evaluation will be developed as children progress through the year groups.

Please refer to the Computing Policy for more details.