St Mary's CE (Aided) Primary School
A Christ-centred school with a child-centred curriculum

Computing Policy

Updated: October 2025

Up for review: October 2028

In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do.

We treasure each child and enable them to flourish, using their God given potential and establishing a secure foundation for them to thrive in a rapidly changing world. We are a Christ-centred school with a child-centred curriculum where wisdom and love shape learning and teaching within our community

INTENT

At St Mary's C of E (Aided) Primary School, we teach Computing to ensure all children are able to flourish in an ever-changing world of technology and online learning. By the time they leave our school, they will have learnt the knowledge and skills in three main areas of the computing curriculum: computer science, digital literacy and information technology. The National Curriculum for Computing is taught across both key stages and it states that children should be able to:

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

IMPLEMENTATION

To deliver the Computing Programme of Study outlined in the National Curriculum at St. Mary's we use the Purple Mash (PM) online learning platform and Scheme of Work (SoW). Each year group delivers specific units, which can be found in the PM SoW Overview document in Appendix 1.

The curriculum is delivered in two parts:

- Computing
- Online Safety

Purple Mash is a clear and effective scheme of work that provides coverage in line with the National Curriculum. Teaching and learning should facilitate progression across all key stages within the strands of digital literacy, information technology, computer science and online safety.

Children have access to Chromebooks and iPads to develop their knowledge of and skills in digital systems and their applications. Children will have the opportunity to explore and respond to key issues such as digital communication, cyberbullying, and online safety.

TEACHING

Teaching and learning is underpinned by the use of the Purple Mash Scheme of Work and the knowledge organisers. The vocabulary that is being taught is clearly written and can be used alongside the Glossary for Computing (Appendix 2) and Online Safety (Appendix 3)

Teaching is broken down into these units of work and has a clear progression through each year group as Coding and Computational thinking, Spreadsheets Internet and Email, Art and Design, Music, Databases and Graphing, Writing and Presenting Communication and Networks. A timetable has been implemented for each class from Year R to Year 6 to ensure use of the Chromebooks so that Computing can be taught effectively once a week.

Short Term Planning

The SoW is used to support the planning of lessons to ensure full coverage across the key stages. Examples of weekly planning can be found on the staff shared drive where there are examples of the main task, as well as tasks to support and extend children. The vocabulary should be taught at the beginning of each lesson.

IMPACT

Pupils' learning and development is at the heart of our curriculum at St Mary's. It is taught in a fun and engaging way that inspires the teaching and learning. Our aim is to equip the children with all the necessary skills to become independent learners. We will provide an exciting, rich, relevant and challenging Computing curriculum for all pupils and teach pupils to become responsible, respectful and competent users of data, information and communication technology. We will:

- provide technology solutions for forging better home and school links.
- enthuse and equip children with the capability to use technology throughout their lives.
- teach pupils to understand the importance of governance and legislation regarding how information is used, stored, created, retrieved, shared and manipulated.
- utilise computational thinking beyond the Computing curriculum.

We believe that technology can provide enhanced collaborative learning opportunities, better engagement of pupils, easier access to rich content, can support conceptual understanding of new concepts and can support the needs of all our pupils.