



Broom Barns Primary School

Computing Policy

February 2025

Computing Policy

This policy document sets out the school's aims, principles and strategies for the delivery of Computing.

Computing skills are a fundamental part of lifelong learning. Learners use and apply their computing knowledge, skills and understanding confidently and competently in their learning and in everyday contexts. We encourage them to become independent users of technology, recognising opportunities and risks and using strategies to stay safe.

Roles and responsibilities

The Head Teacher has overall responsibility for the safe use of computing.

The Computing Subject Leader

- agrees and writes a school action plan, based on the whole school development plan
- informs staff of new developments in the curriculum and provides information on best practice in computing
- embeds and monitors the scheme of work for the computing curriculum monitors planning and assessment termly
- observes lessons, monitors and supports staff in their teaching of computing
- ensures that training needs are met ensures that the computing curriculum is inclusive
- works closely with the contracted technician to solve any technical problems
- reviews the school's computing policy

Teaching and Learning

Computing curriculum

The school uses the computing scheme of work provided by Purple Mash, 2Simple for each year group from Year 1 to Year 6 as the basis for the Computing curriculum. Pupils in the Early Years Foundation Stage will experience computing through the early learning goal from the “technology” strand in the “understanding the world” area of learning. Children should be taught to recognise that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools.

Approaches to Teaching and Learning

Each class has timetabled weekly access to the computers in the ICT suite to deliver the Computing programme of study. Skills developed should be reinforced in the classroom wherever possible using a range of resources. Computing lessons include a range of activities which will provide opportunities, as required by the National Curriculum to enable pupils to:

- Explore ICT and learn to use it confidently and with purpose to achieve specific outcomes.
- Use ICT to develop their ideas and record their creative work.
- Undertake a balanced programme that takes account of abilities, aptitudes and physical, emotional and intellectual development.

Assessment, recording and reporting

Formative assessment of computing will take place during the teaching of discretely taught computing sessions and cross curricular sessions. Summative assessment will be carried out termly at the end of each unit, using the Purple Mash 2 Simple scheme of work and will reflect the development of children’s computing capability. All staff should complete the assessment tracker found in AM7 at the end of each term. The computing Subject Specialist organises the collection of samples of computing work following staff moderation on a termly basis.

Monitoring

The monitoring of the standards of the learner’s work and of the quality of teaching in computing is the responsibility of the Computing Subject Specialist who reports to the Leadership Team. This is achieved through: work sampling, monitoring of planning and lessons, discussion with staff and pupils and looking at computing displays.

Resources

Resources are purchased and deployed effectively to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and National Curriculum. The school has 37 ipads, 80 chrome books, each classroom has an interactive whiteboard with every classroom teacher having a home laptop. The school has access to a range of hardware and software resources which are stored centrally, including digital cameras, and beebots. The Computing Subject Specialist is responsible for auditing and maintaining a computing software and hardware inventory.

The overall maintenance of technology equipment is carried out by our technician. All teachers are responsible for ensuring that equipment is looked after and faults reported either to the Computing Co-ordinator or the school technician using the Computing log book in the staffroom.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

In line with the schools Equality Scheme, planning should take into account the needs, gender, race and religious beliefs, within each year group so that all pupils find the work accessible, stimulating and, whenever possible, appropriate to their interests. Teachers give every pupil the opportunity to experience success in learning and to achieve as high a standard as possible. Computing can be made more accessible to pupils with special educational needs through the use of assistive technology such as adapted mice or keyboards. Technology can also facilitate the inclusion of pupils learning English as an additional language. The user interface of the operating system or application software can be set to a wide variety of languages.

Pupils with special needs may well find it easier to express their ideas and feelings in a visual way and will benefit from 'open ended' tasks and activities. Each Pupil is encouraged to feel their work is respected and of equal value to the work of others. We aim to give all pupils the opportunity to develop an appreciation of computing and digital technology available within the wider world through topic work. Teachers present pupils with a large variety of digital technology to enable them to develop an understanding of the digital world around them. All class teachers are aware that some children may be considered to be more vulnerable online due to a range of factors. They ensure that differentiated and ability appropriate online safety (e-Safety) education is given, with input from specialist staff as appropriate (e.g. SENCO, Looked after Child Coordinator).

E-Safety and Acceptable Use

It is essential to educate, empower and prepare children and adults for the potential risks that are associated with technology. Upon entering the school pupils and their parents are required to sign an Acceptable Use Agreement for Students for computer use and internet access at school.

All staff starting their employment at Broom Barns are also required to agree to an acceptable use policy. The policy is agreed and formalised for staff, students, parents and governors (see 'Acceptable Use Policy')