Policy for Computing and Online Safety

Intent

At Southgate school we believe in a computing curriculum that is easy to follow and will equip pupils with the skills and knowledge they need to use technology safely and creatively. Our provision across school, affords our children the opportunity to develop skills across the three main strands of Computing; computer science, digital literacy and information technology.

The Computing curriculum at Southgate school intends to ensure that all children (where developmentally appropriate):

- Become competent, confident, creative and independent users of technology.
- Develop positive attitudes to computing and understand its importance and relevance in today's world.
- Develop computing as a tool for learning and investigation in all subject areas.
- Explore different technologies (both hardware and software) and enhance their problem solving abilities using technology.
- Have appropriate and equal access to technology, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or ability.
- Can use technology as an enabling tool for pupils with SEND.
- Promote safe and sensible use of technology through a dedicated online safety curriculum.

Implementation

At Southgate our Computing and Online Safety curriculum is delivered through the discrete teaching of skills, cross-curricula use of technology across the wider curriculum and the use of technology as an enabling tool for our learners.

Computing and Online Safety is delivered to all pupils at a developmentally appropriate level using a variety of hardware and software to support learning. Our youngest pupils begin to develop their use of technology in play based scenarios and are actively encouraged to engage and experiment with a range of technologies including but not restricted to IPads, laptops, interactive whiteboards and a range of electronic toys. As our pupils progress through school, computing and online safety lessons become more discrete and pupils begin to access all the three strands of the computing curriculum: computer science, information technology and digital literacy.

All classes at Southgate have two Computing and Online Safety lessons timetabled a week. During these lessons pupils develop their skills and confidence when using different technologies for different purposes. Classes also teach a unit of Online Safety, at a developmentally appropriate level, every half term. This ensures that the pupils at Southgate understand the dangers of the online world and how to be responsible users of technology. All these skills prepare our pupils for life beyond Southgate and ensure they know how to keep themselves safe in an ever evolving online world.

In school we have three laptop trolleys and 2 IPad trolleys, this enables classes to have two timetabled slots with either laptops, IPads or a combination of both a week. On top of this, classes can book out a laptop or IPad trolley to use in other areas of the curriculum. This enables pupils to use technology across the curriculum or as an enabling tool to access parts of the curriculum that they may otherwise find difficult to access.

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To help deliver the Computing and Online safety curriculum in school we use Purple Mash and National Online Safety. All pupils in all class have access to these platforms and use them in their lessons to support their learning. At Southgate we also use a variety of platforms to support learning across the curriculum including but not restricted to Reading Eggs, Maths Seeds, Teach Your Monster to Read, Times Tables Rockstars, Prodigy and Kahoot.

Impact

The Curriculum Coordinator will use work monitoring, pupil voice, staff voice, planning moderation and patterns reflected in learning walk feedback to assess the quality of the curriculum and the progression of pupils. All of these processes will be completed regularly throughout the year and will be overseen and monitored by SLT.

Security

Use of ICT and computing will be in line with the school's 'acceptable use policy'. All staff, volunteers and children must sign a copy of the schools AUP. Parents will be made aware of the 'acceptable use policy' at school entry. All pupils and parents will be aware of the school rules for responsible use of ICT and computing and the internet.

Enquiries and questions

The school welcomes enquiries or questions about Computing and Online Safety. In the first instance parents should contact their child's class teacher.