ST EDWARD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Computing Policy

Head Teacher: Mrs S Wakefield
Lead Person:
Agreed by LGB on
Due for next review:

School Mission Statement

Achieve in God's Love.
St Edward's Catholic Primary School is at the heart of a community rooted in its core values. Our children, by their actions, grow in the image of God.
**Rationale**
At St Edwards Catholic Primary School we value the role of Computing both in school and the wider community. We believe that the development of Computing capability is important in preparing all pupils for citizenship in an increasingly digital society. We also believe that within education Computing, when used in a purposeful way, provides the capability to enhance, enrich and extend teaching and learning experiences across the whole curriculum, including the National Curriculum. Computing can promote the self-esteem and confidence of all pupils including those with Additional Educational Needs (AEN) and the Gifted and talented.

**Aims**
- to enable all children to use Computing skills with purpose and enjoyment
- to enable all children to develop the necessary skills to exploit Computing
- to enable all children to become autonomous users of Computing
- to enable all children to evaluate the benefits of Computing and its impact on society
- to meet the requirement of the National Curriculum as fully as possible and enable all children to
- reach the highest possible standards of achievement
- to create the atmosphere and levels of resources to encourage all members of the school community to learn with Computing.

**Principles of Teaching and Learning**
At St Edward’s we recognise the importance of information technology and we aim to develop all pupils’ confidence and competence. We have a weekly timetabled Computing lesson coupled with an aim to integrate Computing into every area of the curriculum. We have banks for computers for the use of every child. We have Interactive Screens in every classroom as well as data projectors and digital cameras. As our children’s Computing knowledge continues to flourish, we recognise that it is important for us to keep abreast of the latest technology in order to facilitate their learning.
Equal Opportunities
Pupils with additional educational needs will be entitled to the same access to Computing as their peers. In planning lessons teachers will identify the learning goals for the majority of children as well as extension activities for the more able. Consideration will be given to modifying the task, or providing peer or adult support, for children with difficulties. It is important to note that pupils with learning difficulties may achieve well in Computing and should be given every opportunity to provide support for others. Teachers will liaise with the SENCO on the use of Computing to improve their involvement in the curriculum.

Curriculum
Teachers and support staff will ensure that they understand the skills and concepts to be taught and the role of discussion in developing a critical awareness of the use of Computing. The scheme of work for Computing will provide guidance on the skills and knowledge to be covered by each year group. Teachers will need to plan their work so that these skills are taught and that they are practiced and developed during work in other subjects. Computing activities will be planned to allow for different levels of achievement by pupils or to include the possibility of extension work. Teachers will be expected to intervene where appropriate to reinforce an idea or teach a new point.

Pupils will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities to learn to use Computing and apply these skills in a meaningful context throughout the curriculum. They will also evaluate how Computing is used in everyday life and compare this with the way they use it in school through:

- short directed activities to practice a specific skill
- activities with a subject context to practice and develop skills previously learned
- open ended activities which allow pupils to choose which tools to use or to select from a variety of media
- whole class discussion to allow reflection on the use of Computing.

Cross-curricular skills and links
The nature of Computing as a tool means that there will be many opportunities for links with other subjects. Teachers will plan some activities which emphasize the development of Computing capability and others which support the subject being taught. They must refer to subject schemes of work when planning.
Health and safety
Children are encouraged to prepare computers for use and close them down. They are encouraged to sit comfortably and use both hands for the keyboard. All children will be made aware of the school’s e-safety policy.

Assessment, recording and reporting
Each teacher will maintain a record of children’s progress in acquiring basic computer skills. Assessment of ICT capability will be achieved by planning appropriate curriculum activities in line with the school’s policy for assessment and reporting.

Training/CPD
All staff will be encouraged to:

- develop and update their skills, knowledge and understanding of Computing.
- identify their Computing CPD needs and take advantage of training opportunities, both school and centre based.

They will then relate their experiences to other staff members.