

COMPUTING POLICY

St Thomas More's Catholic Primary School

INTRODUCTION

This document is a statement of the aims, objectives, principles and strategies for the teaching and learning of Computing at St Thomas More's Catholic Primary School. We derive our learning and teaching from the mission statement, "to educate and inspire every child to fulfil their unique giftedness within a loving Catholic community".

The use of information and communication technology is an integral part of the national curriculum and is a key skill for everyday life. Computers, tablets, programmable robots, digital and video cameras are a few of the tools that can be used to acquire, organise, store, manipulate, interpret, communicate and present information. At St Thomas More's we recognise that pupils are entitled to quality hardware and software and a structured and progressive approach to the learning of the skills needed to enable them to use it effectively. The purpose of this policy is to state how the school intends to make this provision.

The National Curriculum makes clear the three aspects of the computing curriculum: computer science, information technology and digital literacy.

AIMS/RATIONALE

ICT encompasses every part of modern life and it is important that our children are taught how to use these tools and more importantly, how to use them safely. We believe that it is important for children, staff and the wider school community to have the confidence and ability to use these tools to prepare them for an ever-changing and rapidly developing world. To enable all our staff and pupils to be confident, competent, independent users and learners of ICT we aim to:

- Provide a relevant, challenging and enjoyable curriculum for computing for all pupils.
- Meet the requirements of the National Curriculum programmes of study for computing.
- Use ICT and computing as a tool to enhance learning throughout the curriculum.
- To respond to new developments in technology.
- To equip pupils with the confidence and capability to use ICT and computing throughout their later life.

- To develop the understanding of how to use ICT and computing safely and responsibly.

CURRICULUM – COMPUTING AND ICT ACROSS OTHER SUBJECTS

In the 2014 National Curriculum, the subject of “ICT” was replaced by the subject “Computing”. In this policy, *Computing* will refer to the specific lessons where skills are taught but when it is applied across the curriculum in other subject areas, it will be referred to as *ICT*. ICT will be taught across the curriculum and wherever possible, integrated into other subjects. There may be a need for stand-alone Computing sessions to teach skills that can then be applied in the cross-curricular lessons. The long term Computing map will show the journey which the children are expected to take but this will be adapted each year to ensure that it is relevant and up-to-date. The computing manager will ensure that the plans provide coverage of what is expected and will ensure that the children are challenged and are able to succeed. In Reception, children will be taught how to use various pieces of ICT equipment, in accordance with the Early Learning Goals appropriate for them.

ASSESSMENT

Computing is assessed both formatively and summatively using achievement criteria based on the school’s scheme of work.

Formative assessment occurs on a lesson by lesson basis based on the lesson objectives and outcomes in the school’s scheme of work. These are conducted informally by the class teacher and are used to inform future planning.

A collection of students’ work builds a portfolio over the unit enabling summative assessments to take place where children’s computing capability can be assessed.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Opportunities are given for all staff to develop their own competence and confidence through In-Service Training. The computing manager will liaise with the Senior Leadership Team to provide appropriate training to staff and will be given opportunities to keep up to date with the latest developments in hardware and software and then share with staff as appropriate.

ONLINE SAFETY/E-SAFETY

Please see Online Safety Policy.

Approved:	Oct 2017
Review	Bi-annually
Review date:	Sep 2019