



Computing

Intent

At St Peter's Academy, we believe that all pupils are entitled to a high-quality computing education that equips them to participate effectively and safely in an increasingly digital world. As a small village school serving pupils from Nursery to Year 4, we ensure that computing is accessible, engaging and progressive for all learners.

We recognise that technology plays a vital role in everyday life. Therefore, we aim to develop pupils' computational thinking, enabling them to understand, question and create using technology. Through our use of Purple Mash, we provide a broad and balanced curriculum that covers the three key strands:

- Computer Science
- Information Technology
- Digital Literacy

Our curriculum is designed so that pupils:

- Understand and apply key concepts such as algorithms, logic and sequencing
- Develop problem-solving skills through programming and debugging
- Use technology purposefully to create, organise and present digital content
- Become responsible, safe and respectful users of technology
- Gain confidence to express themselves and develop ideas using digital tools

In the Early Years, we prioritise:

- Exploration of technology through play
- Developing curiosity and problem-solving
- Understanding cause and effect using simple devices

Implementation

At St Peter's Academy, computing is taught through a structured and progressive scheme using Purple Mash, ensuring coverage of the National Curriculum and clear progression from Nursery to Year 4.

Curriculum Structure

- Sequenced units mapped across all year groups
- Weekly or blocked computing lessons
- Clear progression in knowledge, skills and vocabulary

Teaching and Learning Approach

- Lessons are practical, engaging and inclusive
- Teachers use:
 - Modelling and demonstration
 - Guided practice
 - Independent application
- Key vocabulary is explicitly taught and revisited
- Prior learning is built upon through carefully sequenced units

Early Years (Nursery & Reception)

Children are introduced to technology through continuous provision and structured activities:

- Access to desktops, iPads, Bee-Bots and cameras
- Exploration of simple programs within Purple Mash
- Focus on:
 - Basic control and navigation
 - Cause and effect
 - Simple instructions and problem-solving

Key Stage 1

Pupils begin to develop foundational computing skills:

- Understanding what algorithms are and how they are implemented
- Creating and debugging simple programs
- Using technology to create, organise and retrieve digital content
- Recognising uses of technology beyond school
- Learning how to use technology safely and respectfully

Key Stage 2 (Year 3-4)

Pupils deepen their understanding and apply skills more independently:

- Designing, writing and debugging programs
- Using sequence, selection and repetition
- Decomposing problems into manageable parts
- Understanding computer networks and the internet
- Using search technologies effectively and evaluating digital content
- Combining software to create purposeful digital outcomes
- Demonstrating responsible and safe online behaviour

Online Safety

Online safety is a key priority and is:

- Embedded throughout all computing lessons
- Reinforced through assemblies and themed days such as Safer Internet Day
- Regularly revisited to ensure pupils know how to stay safe and seek help

Assessment

- Ongoing formative assessment through observation and pupil outcomes
- Work saved and reviewed within Purple Mash
- Teacher assessment used to monitor progression and inform planning

Impact

The impact of our computing curriculum is that pupils leave St Peter's Academy as confident, capable and responsible users of technology.

Pupils will:

- Demonstrate progression in knowledge and skills from Nursery to Year 4
- Be able to design, write and debug programs appropriate to their age
- Use technology creatively across a range of subjects
- Show a secure understanding of online safety and digital responsibility
- Communicate ideas effectively using digital tools

By the end of Year 4, pupils are able to:

- Apply computational thinking to solve problems
- Select and use appropriate digital tools independently
- Understand how to stay safe online and respond to concerns

Impact is evidenced through:

- Saved pupil work on Purple Mash
- Teacher assessment and observations
- Pupil voice and discussions
- Clear progression in skills across year groups

As a small village school, we ensure that all pupils are supported to achieve these outcomes through a nurturing environment and tailored teaching.

Computing at St Peter's provides children with essential life skills that prepare them for the next stage of education and life in a digital world.