

Overview of the Computing Curriculum

at St Joseph's Primary School

There are three main strands of the new Computing (ICT) curriculum: **information technology, digital literacy and computer science**. Information technology introduces children to the advantages of using computing in everyday life, such as collecting and presenting information, or using search technology. Digital literacy emphasises the safe and responsible use of technology, including the internet, while computer science enables children to understanding how computers and networks work.



At St Joseph's Primary School we use the Rising Stars 'Switched On to Computing' scheme of work as a basis for progression throughout the school, which addresses these three areas of the curriculum. From an early age children are introduced to key computing vocabulary. Computing is taught both as a discrete subject, as well as being used to support teaching and learning across the curriculum. In discrete lessons children are taught basic computer programming, from simple floor robots in the Early Years and Key Stage 1, to creating on-screen computer games and programmes in KS2. We use a range of programming software, such as Scratch, which is available online for children to access from home: <https://scratch.mit.edu/>



Each year group has 6 units of work, which build upon learning from the previous year, providing children with increasingly challenging tasks as they move up through the school. While we offer opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each unit, we have adapted this scheme in KS2 so that teachers who are beginning the new scheme of work with their class address the fundamental principles of programming before moving onto their age appropriate scheme. In practice this means children throughout KS2 are using the Year 3 and 4 schemes of work to ensure appropriate skills coverage.

More broadly, ICT planning is incorporated in our medium term plans, as and when appropriate, for example, in Literacy, History, or Geography.