Denton West End Primary School

Computing Policy

The following policy statement for computing sets out the aims for achieving good computing education and how these relate to other curriculum areas and to the overall aims of the school. It is a statement of intention for the immediate future.

THE SCHOOL'S VISION OF COMPUTING

Denton West End recognises the importance of new technology in modern day life and as such aims to equip children with the necessary skills to enable them to use technology as part of their every day life.

AIMS OF OUR COMPUTING TEACHING

Our role in developing effective computing teaching should encompass the following:
- Provide enjoyable activities.
- Develop skills, both practical and process, by offering ample opportunity for pupils to work independently to carry out computing projects and problem solving activities.
- Provide opportunities for individual and collaborative work.
- Enable children to succeed at an appropriate level by offering activities differentiated either by task, outcome or support given.
- Recognise, and be aware of, existing conceptual frameworks which may affect a child's learning.
- Challenge and consolidate children's understanding by requiring them to apply it to new contexts.
- Use a range of teaching styles.
- Enable children to become independent learners.
- Set clear child friendly objectives and outcomes.

HOW WE PLAN COMPUTING

- The school has been working with Hi Impact to produce new curriculum plans to enhance the computing provision across the curriculum.
- The curriculum plans are available on the school server.
- For discrete computing lessons i.e., teaching coding or programming skills, teachers must have computing planning in their planning folders.
- For cross curricular computing teaching, the use of iPads, computers or other computing technology must be visible on other planning e.g., on Maths planning, Science planning etc.

HOW WE DELIVER COMPUTING

- An hour of computer suite time is allocated to each class Nursery to Year 6 for the teaching of discrete or cross curricular computing.
- iPads are available to any year group or class at any time of the week. They must be booked out on the Google calendar.
- Children have the facility to work on their own PC as the computer suite contains 30 PCs. Children are grouped depending upon the task in hand. Groupings are determined by the class teacher and might include same-ability or mixed-ability pairs.
- Children have access to a bank of iPads for use in the classrooms. Teachers have the opportunity to book up to 16 iPads for class or group activities to aid cross-curricular computing.
- The school has a support package with One Education. One Education staff can assist school staff with technical issues and can also provide support in areas where teachers may need training. All class teachers take responsibility for their own computing teaching.
- Where relevant, discrete computing is taught in a cross-curricular way.

ASSESSMENT

Computing is assessed informally by all teachers and evidence obtained used to inform future teaching. At the end of each topic, teachers will assess which children are working below, at or exceeding the expectations for their year group.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

Progress in computing is reported formally to parents via the annual school report and communicated verbally at parents' evenings.

THE ROLE OF THE TECHNICIAN

The school has a support package with One Education who will be responsible for the following:

- Carrying out general repairs to equipment
- Trouble-shooting as and when needed
- Carrying out general 'housekeeping' to make sure that problems do not arise e.g., cleaning projector filters, checking ink levels in printers, etc.
- Supporting teachers and children in using particular software and equipment.
- Setting-up equipment before a lesson
- Installing resources
- Audits software and hardware

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Electrical equipment is PAT tested on an annual basis.
- Lighting in the computing suite adequate.
- Children come to the computing suite in 1 hour blocks so they are not sat at the computer for excessive periods of time.
- Children are taught how to use electrical equipment sensibly and are told not to touch any wires.
- All floors / doorways, etc. in the computing suite are kept clear.
- Are leads / wires are kept under desks so that there is no danger of tripping.

THE INTERNET

- The school has an up-to-date E-Safety policy, which is reviewed annually.
- Staff, parents, children and guest users sign an 'Acceptable Use' agreement and are made aware of what is and what isn't acceptable when using the school network and the Internet.
- Tameside LA provides filtering of the school's Internet. Children are reminded of these rules with posters on the walls of the computing suite and near computers in the classrooms

This policy will be reviewed and revised on a yearly basis in order reflect the changing nature of the subject and its priority within the school improvement plan. The Computing Co-ordinator, Head and technician will liaise regularly with staff to monitor the effectiveness of the policy.