



Harry Gosling Primary School Computing Policy 2018-2019

This policy reflects the values and philosophy of our Primary School in relation to the teaching and learning of Computing. It sets out a framework within the teaching and non-teaching staff can operate, and gives guidance on planning, teaching and assessment.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the scheme of work for Computing (PurpleMash), which sets out in detail what children in different classes and year groups will be taught, what hardware they will use, and the appropriate software for each year group.

Definition of computing

The terminology regarding computing is generally interpreted to mean the use of any equipment, which allows users to communicate or manipulate information (in the broadest sense of the word) electronically. By this, we mean that information is gathered, stored, processed, presented and communicated using micro electronic systems which can control external devices. Information may be considered to consist of text, graphics, speech, or sound, either singly, or as a combination of one, or more of the above. Control within Computing deals with the effect of human interaction with electrical or electronic devices.

Rationale

At Harry Gosling Primary School, we value the role of Computing both in school and the wider community; just as technology is playing an increasing role in culture generally, so too does it play a growing role in the lives of our children. Children and young people are engaging with digital media and using a wide variety of technologies at younger and younger ages. Therefore, we believe that the development of Computing capability is important in preparing all pupils for citizenship in this increasingly digital society. We also believe that Computing education, when used in a purposeful way, provides the capability to enhance, enrich and extend teaching and learning experiences across the whole curriculum. Computing can promote the self-esteem and confidence of all pupils including those with Special Educational Needs (SEN).

Aims and objectives for Computing

The following aims have been formulated to ensure that all staff has a shared understanding of ICT and the school's aspirations for its implementation.

Our key aims will be:

- To enable all the staff and pupils to become competent, confident and independent users of ICT.
- To provide children with the ICT skills necessary to become independent learners.
- To develop and reinforce a cross-curricular approach to Computing within classroom teaching.
- To use ICT where possible to raise standards across the curriculum.
- To provide safeguards preventing children's access to inappropriate materials on the internet.
- To promote safe and sensible use of the internet.
- To develop staff usage of ICT as a tool in the preparation & presentation of teaching & learning materials, assessment and record-keeping.
- To commit to the Continuous Professional Development of Computing.
- To ensure all staff are confident in the classroom delivery of Computing.
- To provide a learning environment where access to sustainable ICT resources is natural and commonplace.
- To provide pupils with an understanding of ICT's role in everyday life at present and its importance in the future.
- To ensure appropriate and equal access to ICT for all children regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or ability.

Progression

Progression in this subject area will be ensured by the careful structuring of the pupils' experiences of appropriate software and hardware use throughout the child's school experiences. This will be planned by members of staff and will be aimed at the ability level of the individual child. Monitoring this progression will be incorporated into the weekly planning the school undertakes and will be based upon ongoing teacher assessment.

Planning

The school will use the PurpleMash scheme of work as a basis for their planning. These will be reviewed each year by staff.

Recording

Children will keep an electronic portfolio of their work and, where appropriate, printed copies. Teachers will write end of year reports about the pupil's work and achievement in Computing.

Managing Resources

The Computing Leader works with members of the SLT to ensure that there is financial planning for ICT over three years. Hardware is deployed through the school following discussions with staff on a needs basis and new software is acquired as the need arises for it. The purchase of hardware and software may depend on the availability of finances. The school also works with Levett Consultancy Ltd. Levett Consultancy provide technical support, curriculum development and staff training to ensure that the school's resources are used effectively and are up to date.

Hardware

The school has a range of hardware throughout the school which is reviewed annually and updated as necessary. Faults arising should be reported to the Computing Leader or Technician.

Software

Originals, backup copies and working copies, where permissible, will be made freely available to staff as appropriate. With appropriate licences, software will be made available to several machines, predominantly through the school network.

INSET Provision

All staff will be encouraged to:

- Develop and update their skills, knowledge and understanding of Computing.
- Identify their Computing INSET needs and take advantage of training opportunities both school and centre based.

Equal Opportunities

The school will actively encourage cross-curricular Computing related activities to be offered equally to all pupils, regardless of ability, gender, or ethnic origin, in accordance with the school's Equal Opportunities Policy.

The Pupil

Every pupil will have equal access to Computing experiences at their own level of skill and ability. Differentiation will be provided as appropriate.

Special Educational Needs

All children should have access to a broad, balanced curriculum which includes Computing and should make the greatest progress possible. Computing especially provides a means where children with SEN are able to present and develop their work easily. The school will actively encourage the use of appropriate ICT to stimulate and provide challenge for pupils with learning difficulties.

Health and Safety

The school is aware of the Health and Safety issues involved in children's use of ICT and follows the recommendations made by Tower hamlets Council. The school will dispose of redundant ICT equipment responsibly, safely and appropriately.

Online safety

There is an additional online safety policy that outlines the roles and responsibilities surrounding safe and responsible use of ICT for the whole school community. This policy also works in conjunction with our Acceptable use of the Internet policy. All staff, children and parents are expected to sign an AUP policy which is retained in personnel files or pupil files.

Review

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis. All staff will be consulted about this review. Any subsequent amendments will be endorsed by the Head Teacher and the school's Governing Body.

Date: 16.10.18

Date of next review: 16.10.19