Computing Curriculum Statement

Intent

At Yealmpton Primary School we believe that a quality Computing curriculum should enable children to become competent, versatile and safe users of technology. We provide our children with diverse and comprehensive learning opportunities both within dedicated Computing lessons and through the use of technology in other subjects. We promote a culture where children are safe and responsible in their interactions with and through technology. Our Computing curriculum encourages children to understand and equip themselves with computational thinking that addresses the challenges and opportunities offered by the technologically rich world in which we live. We believe that a thorough understanding of the need for safe practices online is key to ensuring that our children are happy and safe members of society and online communities. The curriculum at YPS is designed to provide a broad and balanced education that meets the needs of all children. Our Computing aims are set out in the 2014 National Curriculum as:

- Can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation
- Can analyse problems in computational terms, and have repeated practical experience writing computer programs in order to solve such problems
- Can evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically to solve problems
- Are responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology.

Implementation

At Yealmpton School we have a rigorous and well organised Computing curriculum with a clear progression of skills providing opportunities for children to explore, consolidate and develop their skills and problem-solving abilities. We believe that a clear and effective scheme of work which provides coverage in line with the National Curriculum is essential to meet the requirements of our children in order for them to be the best that they can be. Our teaching and learning supports progression across all year groups within the strands of digital literacy, information technology and computer science. Children across the school have access to ICT equipment in the form of desktop computers and iPads in their classrooms, shared learning areas and through our dedicated Computer Suite. In Key Stage 1, one of the ways we are teaching the pupils about the language and concepts associated with computer programming is by using Bee Bots, which are simple programmable robots. Children in Key Stage 2 have access to the wider range of equipment and software that they need to develop their knowledge and skills within digital systems and their applications. Computing is implemented across wider aspects of our school curriculum, with one example being the use of Times Tables Rockstars during Maths lessons.

Yealmpton Primary School takes internet safety extremely seriously. We have an E-Safety Policy that provides guidance for teachers and children about how to use the internet safely. We are particularly proud of the close relationship we have with our school families and parents are informed whenever issues relating to online safety arise. We have an open door policy and further information and support is provided whenever required. Every year group participates in dedicated lessons on e-safety and children understand how to stay safe when using technology. As well as dedicated schemes of work focusing on e-safety, every year we hold an 'E-Safety Day' during which all children participate in a range of activities which consolidate their understanding of the need to be safe online. A dedicated permanent E-Safety display board in the ICT Suite is then updated with work collected from this day in order to serve as a constant reminder throughout the rest of the year. This work is displayed alongside celebrations of effective outcomes from the computing curriculum collected from throughout the year.

Impact

At Yealmpton School we ensure that every child has the tools and the opportunity to become a confident user of technology; able to use it to accomplish a wide variety of goals safely and productively both at home and in school. Children will have a secure and comprehensive knowledge of the implications of technology and digital systems by the time they leave our school. This is important in a society where technologies and trends are rapidly evolving and the futures of our children lie in job roles which have not even been invented yet. Our children will demonstrate and apply the British values of democracy, tolerance, mutual respect and rule of law when using digital systems, which will hold them in great stead in their future endeavours.