



Computing

Intent

At Sharow we believe that every child should have the right to a curriculum that champions excellence; supporting pupils in achieving to the very best of their abilities. We understand the immense value technology plays not only in supporting the Computing and whole school curriculum but overall in the day-to-day life of our school.

We believe that technology can provide: enhanced collaborative learning opportunities; better engagement of pupils; easier access to rich content; support conceptual understanding of new concepts and can support the needs of all our pupils.

Our Computing curriculum aims to equip young people with the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to thrive in the digital world of today and the future. The curriculum is broken down into 3 strands: *computer science*, *information technology* and *digital literacy*. Through computer science, our pupils will learn the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work, and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Building on this knowledge and understanding, we intend for our children to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content. We also aim to ensure that pupils become digitally literate, enabling them to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world.

Implementation

Computing skills are mainly taught through our online learning platform PurpleMash, both discretely and cross-curricular, supporting other areas of learning across the school and at home. In Reception and Key Stage 1, children are taught to use equipment and software confidently and purposefully, to communicate and handle information and to support their problem solving, recording and expressive skills. In Key Stage 2, our children extend their use of computing that they use for communication, investigation and programming and work to understand how to communicate safely. Online safety has a high profile within our curriculum and is imbedded throughout school, as children get older they need to know about how to use technology responsibly. As well as thinking about how their online behaviour affects others they need to be aware of legal and ethical responsibilities, including respecting copyright and keeping passwords and personal data secure.

They need to understand the main risks relating to:

- Content – being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material
- Contact – being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users
- Conduct – online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm

Impact

We aim to make children in our school digitally literate and able to join the rest of the world on its digital platform. They will be equipped, not only with the skills and knowledge to use technology effectively and for their own benefit, but more importantly – safely. The biggest impact we want on our children is that they understand the consequences of using the internet and that they are also aware of how to keep themselves safe online. As children become more confident in their abilities in Computing, they will become more independent and key life skills such as problem-solving, logical thinking and self-evaluation become second nature. Proficient users of technology who are able to work both independently and collaboratively.