Why is Computing important?

Through computing, we not only learn to use technology purposefully and effectively, but become aware of the underlying processes involved, helping us to understand how best to apply skills safely and ethically. Learning about control systems and robots increases awareness of many of the operating systems we use to manage our everyday lives.

The internet helps us to rapidly access ideas and experiences from a wide range of individuals, communities, countries and cultures.

In computing, we develop essential skills for life in a digital age, learning to apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

When is Computing taught?

Computing is taught through the Purple Mash scheme of work alongside the thematic units in our Learning Means the World (LMTW) curriculum. The attached overview (Appendix 1) maps out which thematic units feature this subject and the Long-Term Plan (Appendix 2) shows the objectives taught.

How is Computing taught?

Computing is taught through a combination of subject knowledge and development of specific skills and competencies. Learning takes place mainly inside the classroom.

By using a mixture of the two resources (Purple Mash and LMTW) our teachers deliver thematic, cross curricular lessons that follow the children's interests and provide flexibility.

What do we learn about in Computing?

We learn about the following:-

Programming
Networking
Sequencing
Multimedia
Data Handling
Presentations
Word Processing
Animation
Email
Online Safety
Computer-Aided Design
Research
Podcasts
Sound FX

How do we assess and monitor Computing / ICT?

Teachers assess pupils' skills and knowledge in Computing, using both formative and summative assessment. At the end of each term, children are assessed in Computing as working towards year group expectations (W), meeting year group expectations (E), or exceeding year group expectations (X).

Teachers use criteria from the National Curriculum Programmes of Study and the three strands of Computing (Computer Science, Information Technology and Digital Literacy) to assess pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding within the subject. Summative Assessment data is updated termly and made available to the Computing Subject Leader at regular points throughout the year.

The Subject Leader uses this to monitor attainment and progress in Computing for the whole school. Subject leaders monitor their subject throughout the year using a range of evidence including pupil and teacher voice, learning walk and learning environments. Subject leaders also complete a 'Deep Dive' into their subject each year, to monitor pupil progress and teaching and learning within Computing.