

## **The Willow Tree Academy**

- Computing Statement of Intent -

### **Intent**

Through our computing curriculum at the Willow Tree Academy we deliver a cross curricular, ambitious curriculum that will enable children to thrive while using technology in a safe and responsible way, offering a profound primary experience.

Our Computing curriculum focuses on a progression of skills in 5 key areas: Digital literacy, Computer Science, Network Communication, Data and Data Representation and E-safety. This ensures that children become autonomous, independent users of technology and are inquisitive learners within the curriculum. These strands are organised into our long term overview and are further developed within the skills progression document that is used throughout the academy, this ensures high-quality teaching and allows leaders to further develop teachers subject knowledge throughout the year. Learning is embedded and skills are successfully developed year on year due to our skills progression document.

Our intention is that the use of technology supports children in all areas of our curriculum, using skills learnt in an ICT lesson to support and engage them in other areas of their learning. By the time they leave, children will have gained key knowledge and skills in order for them to develop their own capability and confidence to use I.C.T as a tool for the future.

### **The 2014 National Curriculum for Computing aims to ensure that all children:**

- 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 of 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**

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in Computing, we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school. It is taught as part of a half-termly topic, developing children's thinking and reasoning skills and enabling them to communicate effectively. We recognise the entitlement that all children have to a creative, cohesive curriculum, reinforcing the need for teaching that is fully inclusive.

Our whole school approach to the teaching and learning of computing, and the use of computing across the curriculum involves the following:

- The Computing Scheme of Learning provides the key objectives required for each area of the curriculum with clear progression shown between year groups.
- Accelerating learning in year 3 to ensure children are at expected standard by the end of the year, to account for gaps in learning.
- Planning uses a range of software, hardware and applications to enable pupils to develop their creativity and independence.
- Children are encouraged to explore, use their initiative, be independent and ask questions when developing their understanding of the computing curriculum.
- Alongside the yearly overview, teachers plan to use computing as part of their everyday teaching. Technology will often be used to support learning in literacy, maths, science and wider curriculum areas. This enables the learning to be cross curricular and ambitious.
- We deliver a rich and rigorous e-safety curriculum that enables and encourages children to be safe when using technology throughout life. Alongside our curriculum, our Willow Tree Warriors support pupils by providing information through assemblies and newsletters, they also support other children's needs with computing and safety issues both in class and during ICT club at lunchtime.

## **Impact**

Our approach at Herringthorpe is to provide and deliver a high-quality computing curriculum, which provides children with the foundations for understanding computing in the real world. ICT is used to enable children to fully express themselves in a cross-curricular, ambitious curriculum. We provide opportunities for children to implement technology into situations which can benefit their understanding.

Technology is used if it can positively impact our children's learning and we take pride in knowing our children work collaboratively and practically to investigate and experiment in computing. In doing so, children are able to explain the processes they have taken and be able to reason and articulate the choices they have made.

The implementation of this curriculum ensures that when pupils leave Herringthorpe, they are competent and safe users of ICT with an understanding of how technology works. Children will have developed skills to express themselves and be creative in using digital media and be equipped to apply their skills to different challenges going forward.