John T. Rice Infant and Nursery School

Computing Policy

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Introduction

This policy is a statement of the aims, principles and the teaching and learning of Computing at John T. Rice Infant School.

We aim to develop knowledge, the skills needed in Computing and to increase awareness of Computing in the world around us. We want children to work safely and to be aware themselves of safety issues.

At John T. Rice Infant School, we have high expectations of children's work and celebrate children's achievements, fostering self-esteem and confidence.

INTENT

Aims

- A Computer Scientist will leave John T. Rice enjoying and appreciating technology in their education and lives. They will understand the balance between effective use of technology and being able to have a healthy, safe online experience. They will be prepared to encounter and thrive in the digital world, while being prepared for the risks this may present.

The national curriculum for Computing aims to ensure that all pupils:

- 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 communication technology.

Objectives

In Computing the children will be taught the age-appropriate objectives from the National Curriculum programme of study. Pupils should be taught to:

- understand what algorithms are; how they are implemented as programs on digital devices; and that programs execute by following precise and unambiguous instructions
- create and debug simple programs
- use logical reasoning to predict the behaviour of simple programs
- use technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content
- use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private; know where to go for help and support when they have concerns about material on the internet
- recognise common uses of information technology beyond school.

IMPLEMENTATION

Teaching & Learning

Our Curriculum

Our curriculum is engaging, broad, and rich, designed to evolve in response to the needs of our children and the changing world around them. It reflects the local context of the school and values the experiences and backgrounds of our pupils, offering meaningful and memorable learning opportunities. Through this approach, we aim to nurture well-rounded, successful citizens. Our school's vision, values, and ethos are woven throughout this vibrant curriculum.

Planning

Our long-term planning is based on a two-year planning cycle (Cycle A and Cycle B) with a different Computing theme each half term. We use the 'Teach Computing' curriculum to plan from and we plan and teach the mixed Year 1 and Year 2 planning on a two- year cycle. The Computing subject leader has undertaken some 'Teach Computing Mixed age Training'.

The Key Stage One team meet half termly to complete the medium-term planning. To ensure that the themes provide adequate coverage and progression through Years 1 & 2, the subject leader has written a progression document containing details of the vocabulary and breadth of study to be taught. This then provides the basis for the medium-term planning. This document also gives details of each lesson objective, vocabulary and necessary knowledge. One teacher will plan this to ensure consistency throughout the classes.

When planning the individual lessons, we use subject specific slides which include: -

- A "low stakes quiz" based on what has been learnt.

- A 'SMART' rules slide, which recaps prior knowledge of our school SMART rules.
- A "Computing" slide to explain what Computing is.
- A "Being a Computer Scientist" slide to explain the disciplines needed for Year 2 childen.
- A learning objective slide that is "child friendly"
- A "Fake News/AI" slide containing child appropriate information about misinformation and disinformation.
- A vocabulary slide including dual coding.

Computing lessons provide fun, hands-on learning experiences that build progressively over a sequence of lessons. We believe children learn best through active participation, as learning by "doing" helps them retain knowledge more effectively.

IMPACT

Monitoring & Assessment

Children are informally assessed during lessons, through questioning and performance which will be used formatively to inform future planning. Summative assessments are used at the end of each term using Arbor, to show progression throughout Key Stage One.

Work is evidenced in floor books throughout school. The Computing subject leader will undertake class learning walks and will monitor the quality and consistency of this work. Planning will be looked at to monitor coverage and progression of Computing across the key stage.

Oracy

Oracy activities are encouraged within Computing whenever possible. These should be linked to the learning objectives for Spoken Language taken from the National Curriculum for English.

Equal Opportunities

At John T. Rice Infant School we are aware of the need for equality of access for all children. Our staff believe strongly in creating equal opportunities for all children and work to this aim. We introduce and build upon the children's awareness of equal opportunities including the development of respect and understanding of multi-cultural, gender and S.E.N. issues.

John. T. Rice Infants is committed to ensuring equality of opportunity in line with the Equality Act 2010. We aim to reduce disadvantages, discrimination and inequalities of

opportunity, and promote diversity in terms of our pupils, our workforce and the community in which we work.

We will assist our pupils in achieving their very best potential. Where pupils experience barriers to their success, we will work with them to address these in a sensitive and sympathetic way. We will teach our pupils the importance of equality and what forms discrimination can take and the impact discrimination can have.

We will not discriminate on any of the grounds listed below (known as the Protected Characteristics) save where such discrimination is permitted by law. The Protected Characteristics that apply to schools are:

- Age (in relation to staff only);
- Disability;
- Gender re-assignment;
- Marriage and civil partnership (in relation to staff only);
- Pregnancy and Maternity;
- Race;
- Religion Faith or Belief;
- Sex; and
- Sexual orientation.

E-Safety

Whilst using a wide range of technologies to teach Computing, we need to ensure children are safeguarded. E-Safety encompasses Internet technologies and electronic communications such as mobile phones as well as collaboration tools and personal publishing. It highlights the need to educate pupils about the benefits and risks of using technology and provides safeguards and awareness for users to enable them to control their online experience.

E-Safety depends on effective practice at a number of levels:

- Responsible ICT use by all staff and pupils; encouraged by education.
- Sound implementation of e-safety policy in both administration and curriculum, including secure school network design and use.

This policy was agreed by staff and the Governing Body. This policy was reviewed in Spring 2026 will be reviewed again in Spring 2029.