

Computing Policy

Intent

At Hasland Infant School we teach our children to become confident, competent, creative and **safe** users of technology. Our curriculum enables children to find and explore information whilst providing them with the necessary skills to be able to do this in an effective and safe way. We teach our children to become computing experts who understand that the effective use of technology can equip them with the skills needed for their future roles in life. At Hasland Infant School we emphasise the importance of online safety. Providing a broad and balanced online safety education for all ages is vital to ensuring that pupils can navigate the online world safely. We aim to use the teaching of online safety to empower our children to use the internet appropriately. This is detailed in our online safety policy.

Implementation

At Hasland Infant School we take a creative approach to our curriculum. The key skills are taught through our whole school topic to ensure learning is meaningful and exciting for our children. Our expectations for each year group can be found in our progression of skills document. This highlights the key skills which each year group is expected to be taught and shows how these are built upon throughout their time in our school. We have four areas of computing which are taught across our school: Using technology, Multimedia, Programming and Online safety. Key knowledge from each year group is revisited year upon year.

From September 2020 we will be introducing the Education for a Connected World Government framework into our Computing planning. This document describes the Digital knowledge and skills that children and young people should have the opportunity to develop at different ages and stages of their lives. It highlights what a child should know in terms of current online technology, its influence on behaviour and development, and what skills they need to be able to navigate it. The document supports children to stay safe and make a positive contribution online, as well enabling teachers to develop effective strategies for understanding and handling online risks. The skills associated with this new framework are used alongside our school key skills document.

At Hasland Infant School, online safety underpins our Computing curriculum. It is important for both the staff and children to be aware of the dangers the internet can bring and to know what to do if they find something of concern online. As part of our Online safety work in school the children are told the story of Smartie the Penguin. This is a child-friendly resource provided by CEOP that highlights some of the dangers they may encounter online. If a member of staff is concerned by a child's online activity they should report this to the safeguarding lead in line with our safeguarding policy. Further information can be found in our online safety policy.

In every computing lesson at our school the teacher makes reference to staying safe online and builds the children's confidence in the skills they are learning. Children ask questions to support their learning and they support each other with the tasks set which enables our children to explain their learning to others.

Nursery

As computing experts, the children access the curriculum through carefully planned play based opportunities. Cameras, torches and other mechanical objects are available for the children to experiment with, and use in the provision. Children can see the effects and staff help children to understand the relevance of these. They begin the year using electronic toys that may be operated by remote controls; they explore the use of I-Pads to film and begin to learn basic computer skills that allow them to use and complete simple programs.

Reception

As computing experts, the children have daily access to computers and netbooks which they can use to explore many different programs. During Reception the children are taught how to use the mouse and keyboard. They begin to explore the basics of programming through the use of bee-bots. They learn computing skills through play based learning opportunities and also undertake a number of formal taught sessions which link to our whole school topic.

Key Stage one

As computing experts, the children are taught a range of computing skills which can be found in our key skills document. The children learn to compose emails, create their own mini films and become confident at typing and saving their own work. The children can program the bee-bots using algorithms and are taught how to debug their own mistakes. The children are taught key skills which link to our whole school topic. As part of our creative curriculum children are given the opportunity to practise and apply these taught skills through continuous provision and other planned activities.

Inclusion and SEND

We are in an inclusive school where we focus on the wellbeing and progress of every child. All of our children share an entitlement to a high quality Computing curriculum which is delivered in a vibrant and creative way. We recognise the fact that we have children of differing special educational needs, disabilities, special gifts and talents, and of those learning English as an additional language in all our classes, so we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child.

Through the use of our computing equipment in school we provide the children with a differentiated approach to many subjects for example those children who may find writing difficult can access a program on Purple Mash allowing them to type instead. We also have a range of educational apps on our class i-Pads that can support children in other subjects. As the teaching of Computing focuses upon a wide range of skills including creating videos and recording sounds it is accessible for all children.

Links with the community

During our annual Online Safety week in school, we always ensure that we share our learning with parents. The children may create posters or leaflets that tell others how to behave and stay safe online and they are always keen to take these home and share what they have found out. The computing subject leader provides parents with a leaflet informing them about the most recent apps accessible to children and how to support their children when using the internet at home. Updated information for parents is posted on our school's website.

The role of the subject leader

The monitoring of children's work and of the quality of teaching is the responsibility of the computing subject leader. The work of the subject leader also involves working closely with staff, offering guidance, support and arranging training if needed. Informing staff about current developments and changes in the subject, and providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in the school is essential as well as ensuring the national curriculum is implemented effectively. School Staff receive statutory online safety training each year. The computing lead is responsible for organising and leading curriculum events such as online safety week.

Impact

The programme of work undertaken by all children ensures that they will finish Key Stage 1:

- Being confident, competent, creative and **safe** users of technology.
- Having the ability to manipulate the different parts of a computer to successfully complete simple programs, edit, save and retrieve work,
- Understanding how algorithms work and how to debug an algorithm that isn't successful.
- Create films and other media pieces through the use of recording videos and sounds.
- Understanding the need for being safe online and how to act appropriately if something they see online concerns them.

Assessment is undertaken by teachers who provide the children with verbal feedback. On occasions where it is appropriate written feedback is also provided. Children are encouraged to know how they can improve their own work and given the opportunity to make improvements.