Computing Policy

Reviewed and Approved by:	Governing Body	
Date Adopted#		
Last Reviewed:		
Last Updated:	May 2021	
Date for next Review:	May 2022	
Signed by Name Printed:	Chair of Governors Mark Walker	Headteacher Linda Mortimer
Signed:		
Date:		

1 Computing Curriculum

At Saltergate Schools we value the contribution that technology can make for the benefit of all pupils, staff, parents and governors. We strive to provide safe opportunities in all subjects to motivate and inspire pupils and raise standards across the curriculum. Everyone in our school community will become lifelong learners equipped to meet developing technology with confidence, enthusiasm and the skills that will prepare them for a future in an ever-changing world.

2 Our Computing vision encompasses the following aims:

To provide pupils with the computational skills necessary to become independent learners.
To promote safe and sensible use of technology through a dedicated e-safety curriculum.
To use new technologies to enable good quality teaching and learning to take place.
To ensure appropriate and equal access to technology for all children regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or ability.
To utilise the online collaborative platforms e.g. Microsoft Teams and Google Classroom in order to provide extended and personalised learning opportunities through the use of technology.
To commit to the Continuous Professional Development of Computing.
To ensure our pupils take advantage of the ever quickening pace of technological change.
To provide pupils with an understanding of the role technology plays in everyday life at present and it's importance in the future.
To give children opportunities to access the Computing Curriculum through home-school links.

3 Inclusion

Pupils with special educational needs should be able to use the technology to encourage their independence and develop their interests and abilities.
All pupils are to have access to the use of technology regardless of gender, race, cultural background or any physical or sensory disability.
Pupils with learning difficulties can be given greater access to the whole curriculum through the use of technology.
Pupils who are noted for being Gifted and Talented within the area of Computing and technology are given additional opportunities to develop the understanding of technology and are both supported and challenged within the context of a Computing lesson and via invitations to school run clubs such as Digital Leaders.
Children who are recognised as being gifted in Computing are able to mentor and share their skills with other pupils within their peer group – the purpose of this is to help transfer their skills to a wider context.
At Saltergate we also use Digital Leaders to help support both pupils and teachers within the teaching of Computing. This is done both through cross-curricular lessons as well specific Computing structured lessons. Alongside this, the Digital Leaders help to develop new curriculum ideas.

4 Implementing the Policy

Good practice in the use of technology in the curriculum.

In Computing lessons
- Pupils are timetabled for at least one Computing lesson per week, which covers the skills and experience required to develop Computing capability through the school's Scheme of Work, with additional skills such as digital literacy and use of spreadsheets being supported through cross-curricular subject links.
- eSafety is focused on separately to this within the timetable to ensure complete coverage.

In learning and teaching across the curriculum
- There are Interactive Whiteboards (IWBs) and cameras in every classroom, used throughout the day for whole class teaching in all subjects. Whiteboards are also used within group activities by teachers or TAs or for collaborative activities by pupils. Whiteboards are also regularly used by pupils themselves to: participate in the session; demonstrate what they have learned or to display work they have done.
- The IWB is connected to a main classroom computer which is on the school network with its shared work area.
- In addition to this all children have access to wireless laptops, Chromebooks and occasionally tablets for use in all curriculum areas.
- Staff and pupils regularly and confidently access links to online resources.
- Teaching and support staff are confident when selecting programs and make extensive use of resources for pupils to use from google drive or online resources.
- Class teachers record their curriculum activities on their dedicated page within the school website and use Twitter to communicate activities to parents.

5 Developing and monitoring the Computing curriculum
The Head teacher and Computing Subject Leader are responsible for ensuring this Computing policy is implemented. The Computing Subject Leader is responsible for mapping the Scheme of Work and for liaising with other subject leaders to map the delivery of further technology use in learning and teaching across the curriculum. Members of the SLT and the Computing Subject Leader will be involved in monitoring class teachers' curriculum planning and teaching. The Computing Subject Leader will carry out an audit of staff skills annually and support or training will be provided where necessary. All staff will ensure that the use of technology is evident with classroom and curricular displays. Class teachers will also endeavour to take part in Safer Internet Day each year with support from the Computing Subject Leader.
Monitoring activities such as lesson drop-ins, viewing planning, pupil voice, environment walks as well as internal data evalutations will contribute to an overall assessment of teaching and learning in Computing at Saltergate Schools.

6 Assessment
As projects begin teachers will ask children to demonstrate their knowledge via vocabulary and definitions tasks, brainstorming activities or demonstrating their skills directly on the computer

so that teachers can aim their teaching and learning activities to such a level to ensure they are able to develop each child's capabilities.

7 Home Links
The children have access to a wide variety of resources that enable them to continue their learning of the curriculum at home. Weekly maths, english and topic sessions are uploaded onto Google Classroom so that pupils can access learning from home. The children are able to complete tasks and save their work virtually or share it directly with teachers so that it can be shared both in school and at home with teachers and parents.
We also have a School Twitter account to share news of class and whole school events and celebrate activities within school.

8 Identifying Gifted pupils in Computing
In Computing, pupils who are identified as gifted are challenged within lessons in school, and are additionally offered external workshops (e.g Digital leaders event at Rossett School) and challenges; as well as encouraged to attend extra curricular activities (such as holiday coding clubs run at Harrogate library.)
To help identify pupils who are gifted, the following markers have been adapted, with example of what this might look like within Saltergate Junior School.
Gifted Markers to look for in Computing
- Finds and uses new technology (hardware/software) to further learning
- Uses own skills and knowledge to help support (and 'teach') peers
- Uses technology to help solve problems, and understands when it also creates problems
- Considers the limitations of technology, and looks for ways to overcome these limitations
- Considers the purpose to which information is processed and communicated, and how the characteristics of different kinds of information influence its use
- Uses technology innovatively to support learning in other subjects
- Understands the positive impact using technology has in supporting the learning of less able pupils
- Uses skills and knowledge of Computing to design, create and 'debug' programs when only given a specified outcome
- Consider some of the social, economic and ethical issues raised by the use of technology both in and out of school

9 This Policy
The Computing subject Leader and the Headteacher will be responsible for ensuring the effective monitoring, evaluation and review of this policy.