COMPUTING POLICY

Information Communications Technology and the skills required to effectively access it are an integral part of learning. The teaching of this subject gives children the ability to engage with and access the world around them; as well as furthering their learning in all curriculum areas. The uses of ICT, safety issues, and study skills are all taught, thus ICT is viewed as a tool, rather than an end in itself. The importance of ICT as a motivating force in both teaching and learning is recognised and celebrated.

Computing develops logical thinking and creativity through an understanding of how digital systems work. It enables children to use IT to create programs and systems and to become digitally literate in a range of media. Computing allows the children to develop the ability to understand and apply abstraction, logic, algorithms and date representation. The teaching of computing encourages children to analyse problems; to write basic programs; to evaluate and apply technologies analytically; and to be competent, responsible and creative users of ICT.

The key skill areas of ICT Basic Skills; Control Devices; Paint and Graphic Design; Word Processing; Multimedia; Internet and Searches; Databases and Spreadsheets; and Away From the Computer are categorised in the ICT skills ladder.

The teaching and learning may include:
Ø   Use of ICT to achieve goals in other subjects (including the discrete teaching of skills).
Ø   ICT and internet safety, including issues such as social media, sharing of information, and searches.
Ø   The appropriate use of ICT - when to use it, what to use, when not to use it.
Ø   Use of other multimedia sources and equipment, such as recordings, videos, and control devices.
Ø   Use of ICT to engage and motivate pupils and further their learning, both independently and as a whole class.

Within our integrated curriculum, the skills are distinct though the content used may be topic based and link very closely with History, English and Art in particular, although we recognise the importance of ICT in all areas.

Assessment in ICT is on-going and is recorded on the ICT skills ladder as the children achieve a particular competence.

The key skills of Computing are to understand algorithms; create and debug simple programs; use logical reasoning; know how to select and use a variety of software to accomplish a goal; and to be safe and responsible digital citizens.

Assessment in Computing is on-going and is recorded on the skill matrix as the children achieve a particular competence.