



# Computing Policy

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<b>Written by</b>	<b>K.Wong</b>

## **ST MALACHY'S SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

- ❖ St. Malachy's is a Catholic School where we will all do our best to do the work of Jesus.
  - ❖ We will study, pray, play and celebrate together.
  - ❖ We will care for each other and look after each other, just like a big family.
  - ❖ It is important to remember that we are all good and clever in different ways.
  - ❖ We will learn important lessons that will help us when we are grown up.
    - ❖ In our school, it will be fun and we will strive to make it a safe place.

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## 1.

### Purpose:

Computing in the National Curriculum expectations split the teaching and learning of Computing into three strands (Computer Science, Digital Literacy and Information Technology). It is therefore important that children recognise the difference between what makes each one relevant to their future, as well as their everyday lives. High quality teaching of Computing, from Nursery through to Year 6, utilises a combination of practical lessons and theory lessons designed to promote discussion and nurture understanding, which are also relevant to other areas of the curriculum. This policy sets out a framework within which teaching and non-teaching staff can operate and give guidance on planning, teaching and assessment. This policy should be read in conjunction with the scheme of learning for Computing (Rising Stars), and followed alongside the Long Term Plan and Computing Overview.

Other linked policies include:

- E-Safety Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Remote Learning Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Acceptable Use Policy

This document is intended for:

- All teaching staff
- All staff with classroom responsibilities
- School governors
- Parents and Carers
- Inspection Teams

Copies of this policy are kept on the staff shared drive and it is available on the school's website.

## 2.

### Our Intent:

*'A high-quality computing education equips pupils to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world.'*

**Computing programme of Study, DfE, 2013**

Computing has deep links with mathematics, science, and design and technology, and provides insights into both natural and artificial system. Computing also ensures that pupils become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world. At St Malachy's, we believe that Computing is an integral part of preparing children to live in a world where technology is continuously and rapidly evolving, so much so that children are being prepared to work with technology that doesn't even exist yet. For this reason, we feel that it is important that children are able to participate in the creation of these new tools to fully grasp the relevance of and the possibilities of emerging technologies thus preparing them for the world of work. We will use The Rising Stars scheme in order to deliver the objectives of the EYFS framework and the National Curriculum.

At St Malachy's, we will:

- Provide a broad, balanced, challenging and enjoyable curriculum for all pupils
- Develop pupil's computational thinking skills, which will benefit them throughout their lives
- Meet the requirements of the EYFS framework and National Curriculum programmes of study for Computing at Key Stage 1 and 2
- Equip pupils with the confidence and skills to use digital tools and technologies throughout their lives
- Enhance and enrich learning in other areas of the curriculum by cross curricular use of ICT
- Develop an understanding of how to use computers and digital tools safely and stay safe online
- Create opportunities for collaborative and independent learning
- Develop children's understanding of technology and how it is constantly evolving
- Allow children to explore a range of digital devices
- To promote the Gospel Values and pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development throughout Computing

### **3.**

#### **Objectives**

We will implement our intentions by providing a wealth of learning opportunities both explicitly within computing and also across other curriculum subjects. We will ensure that Computing lessons enable pupils to achieve the objectives laid out in the EYFS Framework and in the National Curriculum, and strive to challenge pupils to achieve to their full potential. We will continuously measure impact and outcomes in Computing, and ensure that standards are high by:

- Ensuring that there is access to all equipment, software and resources required
- Constantly adapting and reviewing our scheme of work
- Ensuring teachers provide quality marking and feedback to move on pupils learning. This will be in line with St Malachy's marking policy
- Targeting pupils in order to put them through the Digital Leaders programme
- Work alongside a consortium of DfE accredited organisations (NCCE and STEM learning) to improve staff subject knowledge
- Ensure that the SLT and Computing Lead conduct regular monitoring to observe teaching, learning and curriculum coverage
- Conduct regular Pupil Voice surveys
- Use the Computing overview to ensure skills are developed in a cohesive and consistent way.
- Allow a full day for Computing per half term and ensure that there is a class set of I-pads in Years 1-6 in order to reinforce cross-curricular learning
- Observe key super learning days such as E-Safety day and Anti-bullying day

By doing this we will fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum.

### **4.**

#### **Equal Opportunities, Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**

We aim to respond to children needs and overcome potential barriers for individuals and groups of children by:

- Consistently upholding the Gospel Values and recognising that all children are unique and made in the image of God
- Celebrating and recognising individuality and personal achievements
- Ensuring that all children follow the scheme of learning for Computing
- Providing curriculum materials and programmes, which are in no way class, gender or racially prejudice or biased
- Providing opportunities for our children who do not have access at home to use the school computers/Internet to develop independent learning
- Providing suitable challenges for more-able children, as well as support for those who have emerging needs
- Celebrating local and national achievements in the field of Computing and ICT
- Overcoming barriers to learning through the use of assessment and additional support
- Developing children's cultural capital
- Using a wide range of ICT across the school in order to expose children to a range of technology

### **5.**

#### **Assessment**

As in all other subjects, children should be assessed and appraised of their progress in understanding and applying of computing skills. Formative assessment occurs on a lesson-by-lesson basis determined by the aims. Written work will be recorded and marked in line with St Malachy's marking policy. Online work will be recorded in pupil's learning journey's. Nursery use Tapestry. Years Reception – Six use Seesaw. Pupils will be encouraged and expected to self and peer assess. Summative assessment will be collected and recorded in line with the school's assessment policy.

## **6.**

### **Health and Safety**

The school takes very seriously and is aware of the health and safety issues surrounding children's use of ICT. We ensure that pupils have a safe environment in which to learn. We ensure effective filters are in place to safeguard pupils. As such, we will ensure that:

- All fixed and portable appliances in school are tested by an approved contractor every twelve months
- Damaged equipment is reported to the computing lead and business/site manager who will arrange for repair or disposal
- E-safety is taught continuously and is woven throughout every Computing lesson.
- E-safety units are taught within PHSCE
- Children learn about rights and responsibilities when using the Internet, and adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy
- Information and updates on E-Safety are shared regularly. This may be in the form of the school newsletter, parent workshops or via the Parentapp
- There is a no food/drink policy in place in the school's Computing Suite

## **7.**

### **Security, Legislation, Copyright and Data Protection**

We ensure that the school community is kept safe by ensuring that:

- The external agency is responsible for regularly updating anti-virus software (One Education)
- The use of ICT and computing will be in line with the school's Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)
- All staff, volunteers and children must sign a copy of the schools AUP
- Parents/Carers are made to sign the AUP when using school devices
- Reminders for safe and responsible use of ICT and computing and the Internet will be displayed in the Computing Suite
- No personal software is to be loaded onto school computers

Further information can be found in the school's Data Protection policy.

## **8.**

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

**The Head Teacher**, in conjunction with the Computing Lead and school Governors will determine the ways in which Computing and ICT supports, enriches and extends the curriculum. Together, they will:

- Decide on the provision and allocation of resources.
- Ensure that Computing and ICT is used in a way that achieves the aims and objectives of the school.
- Ensure that there is a designated Computing leader to oversee the planning and delivery of Computing.

**The Computing Lead will:**

- Provide or organise CPD training to keep staff skills and knowledge up to date.
- Advise colleagues about effective teaching strategies, managing equipment and purchasing resources.
- Monitor the delivery and the provision of the Computing curriculum and report to the Head Teacher and Governors.
- Develop, review and update associated policies.

**Teachers:**

- Whole school coordination and support is essential to the development of Computing and ICT capability however, it is the responsibility of each individual teacher to plan and teach appropriate Computing and ICT activities and assist the leader in the monitoring and recording of pupil progress in the subjects.

## **9.**

### **Monitoring**

Monitoring enables the subject leader to gain an overview of Computing teaching and learning throughout the school. This will assist the school in the self-evaluation process identifying areas of strength as well as those for development. In monitoring the quality of Computing teaching and learning, the subject leader will:

- Observe teaching and learning in the classroom.
- Hold staff and pupil voice
- Appraise children's work
- Examine the scheme and lesson plans to ensure full coverage of the Computing and cross-curricular requirements.

## **10.**

### **Home School Links**

Our school website promotes the school and children's achievements as well as providing information and communication between the school, parents and the local community. Twitter is used to keep parents up to date and to share children's achievements in a more accessible way. Texts and/or emails are sent to parents as reminders or to inform instead of sending letters home with children. This is done via the Parentapp.

## **11.**

### **Deployment of Computing/ICT Resources**

To enable regular and whole class teaching of Computing, teachers have access to a bank of resources. We have a purpose-built Computing Suite equipped with a class set of computers, and a projector/screen linked to the school network. We have a LAN school programme, by which we can, from the teacher computer, monitor and control all computers in the suite. In addition, each class in Years 1-6 has a class set of I-Pads. Every class has an interactive touch-screen board linked to a main computer on the school network. Both of the school halls have ceiling mounted projectors and a retractable screen, which are also linked to the school network

**TO BE REVIEWED OCTOBER 2023**