
#WEARE

The online world is full of opportunity, learning and risks and learning to navigate it safely is critical. Our curriculum is designed to help all children to be responsible, effective and educated online learners.

ICT and Computing impacts on all our lives each and every day. Through the teaching of ICT skills and Computing, we aim to equip children to participate in a rapidly-changing world where work and leisure activities are increasingly transformed and enhanced by technology. We enable them to find, explore, analyse, exchange and present information. We also focus on developing the skills necessary for children to be able to use information in an effective way. ICT skills are a major factor in enabling children to be confident, creative and independent learners.

At New Silksworth Academy, we provide a high-quality Computing curriculum which equips children with the skills and knowledge they will need to use technology safely, responsibly and creatively, in the home and beyond. The progression of skills ensures children can build on their understanding as new skills are taught. Key vocabulary and concepts are revisited to ensure children make progression throughout school. We hope to inspire a lifelong love of technology as a tool for learning, playing, designing, coding and inventing.

Our computing curriculum covers the three strands of computer science, information technology and digital literacy.

Children are introduced to computing in EYFS, where they explore types of technology. They have a broad, play-based experience of computing in a range of contexts. Children build confidence to use devices purposefully to support their EYFS goals.

Key Stage 1 and 2 children have weekly access to the computing suite for an hour, and laptops are available for use at other times.

Espresso Coding is used to facilitate coding, providing opportunity for both block and html lessons. ILearn 2 is used to deliver information technology and digital literacy lessons. Other resources such as 'internet legends' and 'education for a connected world' are used to teach digital literacy.

Online safety is an integral part of our computing curriculum. Lessons focus on the key aspects of online safety to support our children to live knowledgably, responsibly and safely in a digital world.

Teachers assess knowledge, understanding and skills throughout lessons and refer to the expected KPIs (Key Performance Indicators). They make observations, have conversations with children as they work and gather examples of work.

We use technology in ICT and Computing lessons, but also to support learning in other subjects across the curriculum. We have an online safety curriculum which is taught in every year group following relevant, key themes.

Links are made with other subjects where appropriate. For example, PSHE lessons are linked to the digital literacy computing curriculum, with a clear focus on online safety. Science lessons

include use of data-loggers to record sound, light or temperature. In maths, a range of information technology is used to construct and present information.

We have a range of high quality resources and software to facilitate the delivery of our computing curriculum such as Espresso Coding, ILearn2, computers, IWBs, laptops, i-pads, visualisers, bee bots, code-a-pillar and a rugged robot truck. In addition to this we have specialist equipment to support some pupils to fully access the curriculum.

The computing lead keeps up to date with new technologies and is a member of the North-east CAS (Computing at Schools) group.

An after-school computing club is available for children to further develop their skills. Clubs have included Lego-technic coding and animation.