Our Computing Curriculum: Glastonbury Thorn School

The Computing curriculum at GTS is accessible to all and provides the children with the opportunity to gain knowledge of the ever-changing world of technology. In line with our curriculum ethos, computing is taught through the children's own experiences and learning possibilities within the community and beyond, ensuring that engagement and involvement is high. Our Computing provision is practical and visual, ensuring that learning opportunities are accessible to all types of learners. The children at GTS are given the opportunities to develop individual skills through the teaching of the National Curriculum objectives within the school's Long Term Plan and Curriculum Intent.

Teachers follow the National Curriculum objectives, which have been organised to increase children's understanding in the key computing areas, showing progression from EYFS through to the end of Year 2. In Year 1, the children develop their understanding of programming and simple algorithms. The children improve their knowledge and digital literacy by learning how to create, store and retrieve digital content. In line with our E Safety policy, the children understand how to stay safe online and when using computers. In Year 2, the children develop their knowledge by creating multimedia presentations. The learning of programming continues and develops through learning how to test and find errors. Staying safe online remains a priority, including sending and retrieving emails.

Much of the teaching of Computing is incorporated into the GTS focus of 'The Revolutionary World.'

To assess the children's progress and understanding, teachers complete ongoing assessments which focus on the National Curriculum objectives and those children who are meeting the objectives or working below/above. This in turn informs weekly planning to ensure that the provision is adapted accordingly and all children are making expected or better progress. Where written work is appropriate, learning is captured in the children Learning Journey writing books. Computing Scrapbooks for each year group capture evidence of learning and to aid 'knowing more and remembering more.'

Our Cultural Capital intent in Computing is through enrichment and building aspirations.
(see Cultural Capital Intent document for Computing)

Sticky Knowledge

In EYFS, 'sticky knowledge' begins with children understanding that computers can help us perform tasks and that technology has changed over time. The children understand how to follow simple instructions and are able to set simple instructions for a digital device to work.

Skills and Digital Literacy

The children understand how to create simple digital content and can store and retrieve their content safely. The children gain the knowledge of how to copy and paste, including using a mouse to navigate and use right-click for options. Developing these skills further, the children gain the knowledge to use technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content. The children learn to edit and enhance their work, including digital photography.

Algorithms and Programming

The children gain knowledge of what an algorithm is in its simplest form. The children understand how to create and debug a simple algorithm. This is developed further by understanding and describing more complex algorithms.

Being a Safe User (internet safety)

The children gain an understanding of how to stay safe online and this is strengthened further through the teaching of PSHE. The children understand that the internet is a useful tool, including communication. The children know the purpose of an email and understand how one is sent. The children develop their understanding of internet safety by learning how to navigate the World Wide Web, including how to bookmark safe sites and use these sites safely and for a purpose.

Our aim in Computing is to continually develop our children's knowledge and understanding in order to not only become Confident Computer Technicians of the future, but to also develop an understanding of an ever-changing technical world in which we all live, in order to be successful in our lives ahead.