Learning at River View

Computing

Computing education at River View Primary school enables children to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world around them. The core of computing is based around computer science, in which children are taught the principles of what information is, how a wide range of digital systems work and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Our computing curriculum also ensures children are digitally literate by the time they leave at the end of year 6, to support them in becoming active participants in the digital world.

At River View the teaching of computing runs throughout the curriculum and has deep links with a range of subjects such as: Mathematics, Science and Design and Technology. In KS1 and KS2, children are provided with their own personal chromebook, allowing them to fully maximise these links in other subjects to fully develop their digital literacy skills. Children are taught how to use technology safely and responsibly - supporting them in becoming active participants in the digital world.

The learning opportunities for the children have been carefully considered and planned progressively and prior learning is built upon. Our youngest children are taught to understand basic algorithms and to create and debug simple programs. Children in KS1 will also be given the opportunity to predict the behavior of simple programs to further explore what they have learnt previously. In KS2, children will be taught how to design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals, as well as being expected to explain how their algorithms work and to detect and correct errors in these algorithms. This shows a clear progression in their skills.

Knowledge organisers set out the knowledge and skills that pupils will gain in each area, as well as detailing prior learning, key vocabulary and clear end points. Knowledge organisers are used to clarify technical terms and check children’s understanding regularly; they are used by children as a working document and sent home to support parental engagement.

Computing is taught across one block during the year. However, careful consideration has been given to the structure of the curriculum to ensure that natural links across other subjects are exploited. This makes sure that this block focuses solely on computer science and that it is taught in depth.

Our computing curriculum is high quality, and has been planned to demonstrate progression. If children are keeping up with the curriculum, they are deemed to be making good or better progress. In addition, we measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

* Low stake quizzes
* Responses to questions
* Discussions with children
* Oral responses and observations by the teacher within class
* Children are prepared for computing in the next stage of their education.
* Children are able to become active participants in the digital world at school and in wider aspects of their lives.