



Intent

At St. Bernadette Catholic Primary School, we believe that every child should have the right to a curriculum that champions excellence; supporting pupils in achieving to the very best of their abilities. We understand the immense value technology plays not only in supporting the computing and whole school curriculum but overall, in the day-to-day life of our pupils. We want to equip our learners to participate more readily in a continuously changing world. We use the Purple Mash scheme of work which helps children develop skills in Computer Science, Information Technology and Digital Literacy. We want our pupils to be able to use a computer effectively, learn how to use software, how to use the internet safely and productively and to understand coding. We want the children to develop the ability and skill to find, evaluate, utilise, share and create content using information technologies and the Internet.

Implementation

Computing in EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage)

At St Bernadette we introduce our Nursery and Reception pupils to basic technology and digital skills in a fun, safe, and exploratory way. It's not about formal "computer lessons," but about building foundations.

We teach the children that technology is all around us and they begin to recognise everyday technology (e.g. tablets, phones, cameras.) The children understand that technology has a purpose (e.g. taking photos, playing music etc.) and the children talk about what they use at home and school. The children have the opportunities to use cause-and-effect toys (press a button → something happens,) simple programmable toys (like Bee-Bots) and begin to problem-solve through their play.

We introduce the children to early computational thinking for example:

- Sequencing (first, next, last)
- Pattern recognition (spotting similarities)
- Following simple instructions
- Logical thinking through stories and routines

Example: Giving instructions like

"Move forward → turn left → stop" (just like coding!)

Key Stage 1 and 2

Our carefully sequenced computing curriculum (see curriculum map for details of the topics we cover each half term) ensures that all children develop as well-rounded, capable, and safe digital learners.

Computing is taught weekly but is also discretely taught in many different contexts throughout all areas of the curriculum. For example, through Science, the children would use their Chromebook to investigate the biography of a famous Scientist's life.

At St Bernadette computing focuses on a set of foundational skills that children build from EYFS through Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. These are designed to help pupils understand technology, not just how to use it.

Computational Thinking, this is the most important foundation.

Children learn to:

- Break problems into steps (decomposition)
- Spot patterns
- Follow and create sequences
- Think logically

For Example: Writing instructions for a robot or giving directions

Programming (Coding)

Children learn to:

- Write simple programs (instructions for computers)
- Use block-based coding
- Understand: Algorithms (step-by-step instructions) Debugging (fixing mistakes)

Digital Literacy

Children learn to:

- Use technology safely and responsibly
- Navigate devices (tablets, laptops)
- Search for information
- Understand online behaviour

Information Technology (IT Skills)

Children learn to:

- Create and edit digital content
 - Documents
 - Pictures
 - Presentations
- Store and organise data
- Use software for a purpose

Online Safety

At St Bernadette we place great importance in the children's understanding of Online Safety. We want our children to be confident to use the internet in a safe and productive way. We use **Project Evolve** which is an online based scheme of work which is constantly 'evolving' to ensure the online safety messages that our children are being taught are delivered in a way that is more appropriate; more meaningful; that encourages reflection; that generates positive outcomes and are updating regularly to reflect the changing world.

The Online Safety content is separated into eight strands which are taught throughout the year covering everything from online relationships to copyright and ownership. These are taught from Nursery through to Year 6.



Impact

If asked, the children are able to explain what they enjoy about computing and demonstrate their knowledge and understanding about how to keep safe online.

At St Bernadette it is evident that children study a computing curriculum which displays a clear progression of skills, vocabulary and computational thinking. Children become confident and have the opportunity to explore complex pieces of software and have a clear understanding of how to keep safe whilst using the internet. This will give children the skills and knowledge to help them in their daily lives and into the future.