Computing at Monken Hadley C of E Primary School

Computing is an essential part of modern life and is embedded throughout our curriculum at Monken Hadley. We believe that every child should develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to use technology creatively, safely and responsibly. Digital literacy is a key life skill, preparing our pupils for further education, future careers and participation in an increasingly digital world.

Every child from Year 1 upwards has access to an individual Chromebook throughout the school day. Chromebooks have become an integral learning tool alongside books and stationery, enabling children to access learning across all curriculum areas. We use the Google platform to support teaching and learning, with Google Classroom and Google Drive enabling children to collaborate, complete homework and access their work both in school and at home.

Curriculum Intent

Our computing curriculum aims to inspire children to become confident, creative and responsible users of technology. We want pupils to develop computational thinking, problem solving and programming skills while understanding how digital technologies shape the world around them.

We are committed to developing digitally literate learners who:

- use technology confidently and purposefully across the curriculum;
- understand how to stay safe and behave responsibly online;
- develop resilience, creativity and logical thinking through programming and problem solving;
- develop an age appropriate understanding of emerging technologies, including Artificial Intelligence (AI), and recognise the importance of using digital technologies safely, responsibly and ethically;
- appreciate the opportunities that computing offers for future learning, employment and everyday life.

Our School Development Plan places a strong emphasis on developing digital literacy across the whole school. We continually review and develop our computing curriculum to ensure it remains engaging, relevant and ambitious for all pupils. Through ongoing staff development and the thoughtful integration of technology across the curriculum, we aim to provide high quality computing education that prepares children for an increasingly digital world.

Curriculum Implementation

At Monken Hadley we follow the Teach Computing Curriculum, developed by the National Centre for Computing Education and funded by the Department for Education. This carefully sequenced curriculum ensures progression in computer science, information technology and digital literacy from Reception through to Year 6.

Technology is embedded across daily learning rather than being confined to discrete computing lessons. Children use their Chromebooks to research, create, collaborate, present their work and access learning across a wide range of subjects. Google Classroom provides a consistent platform for classwork and homework, while Google Drive enables pupils to organise and access their work both at school and at home.

We place a strong emphasis on practical, hands on computing. Through programming and physical computing using our class set of BBC micro:bits, pupils develop their coding, problem solving and computational thinking skills by designing, testing and improving real world solutions.

Digital literacy is promoted across the curriculum, encouraging pupils to use technology creatively in subjects including English, mathematics, science, history, geography and the arts.

Our Digital Leaders play an important role within school. Pupils apply for these positions each academic year, with increasing numbers of children, particularly girls, choosing to take on this responsibility. Digital Leaders support their peers, promote responsible digital citizenship, help maintain technology around the school and contribute ideas for developing computing further. To encourage greater participation in computing, the National Centre for Computing Education's *I Belong* Ambassador training was completed, helping to promote positive attitudes towards computing and inspire more girls to see themselves as future technologists. As part of this work, pupils created a promotional video celebrating girls in computing, established a Girls Computing Club and continue to encourage all children to develop confidence and enthusiasm for computing. Digital Leaders have also created their own website and run a lunchtime Coding Club for younger pupils, fostering a love of programming and problem solving across the school.

Online Safety

Keeping children safe online is a fundamental part of our curriculum.

Online safety is taught every term through dedicated lessons and is continually reinforced whenever technology is used. Children learn how to:

- stay safe when communicating online;
- protect their personal information;
- recognise reliable and unreliable online content;
- understand cyberbullying and how to seek help;
- develop healthy and balanced online habits;
- understand the importance of respectful and responsible behaviour online.

Each year we celebrate Safer Internet Day through whole school activities, assemblies and classroom discussions. Staying safe online is discussed regularly throughout the year so that children develop the confidence to make sensible, informed and responsible choices whenever they use technology.

Curriculum Impact

Our pupils are enthusiastic, confident and increasingly independent users of technology. They develop strong computational thinking skills and demonstrate creativity, resilience and collaboration when solving problems and creating digital content.

Daily access to Chromebooks enables children to become digitally fluent and confident across all areas of the curriculum. They understand how technology can support their learning and are able to choose appropriate digital tools independently.

Through programming and physical computing activities using BBC micro:bits, pupils gain valuable experience of designing, testing and refining real world solutions.

Alongside developing practical computing skills, pupils develop an age appropriate understanding of emerging technologies, including Artificial Intelligence (AI). Through discussion and exploration of real life examples, they learn what AI is, where it is used in everyday life and why it is important to think critically about digital content.

We continually review our computing provision through pupil voice, staff feedback and curriculum monitoring to ensure that our teaching remains current, effective and responsive to the needs of our pupils. As a result, children leave Monken Hadley well prepared for the next stage of their education and equipped with the digital skills they will need throughout their lives.