



Full Governors

08.07.26

Signed

[Signature]

Computing Policy

Statement of intent

At Portway Infant School we aim to deliver a computing curriculum that provides pupils with a high-quality computing education that equips pupils to use computational thinking and creativity to navigate emerging technologies.

Computing has deep links with mathematics, science, and design and technology, and provides insights into both natural and artificial systems. The core of computing is computer science, in which pupils are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work, and how to put this knowledge to use through programming.

Building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content. Computing also ensures that pupils become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through information and communication technology, at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world.

Overall curriculum aims

At Portway Infant School, we aim for all of our pupils to achieve the age-related expectations for KS1 in computing, as set out by the National Curriculum. By the end of KS1, pupils will be expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in this policy.

The school will meet the general aims set out by the DfE for computing programmes of study, which means pupils,

- can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation.
- can analyse problems in computational terms and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs to solve such problems.
- can evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically to solve problems.
- are responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology.

Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following,

- DfE (2022) 'Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2022'
- Data Protection Act 2018
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- Equality Act 2010
- DfE (2013) 'Computing programmes of study: Key Stages 1 and 2'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Data Protection
- Equality Action plan 2021 – 2025
- Home School Charter
- Online Safety

- PSHE
- SEMH
- Wellbeing

Roles and responsibilities

The governing board will be responsible for,

- Monitoring the effectiveness of the computing curriculum.
- Monitoring the progress and attainment of pupils in computing.
- Holding the headteacher and computing subject leader to account for pupils' computing attainment and progress, and the delivery of the computing curriculum.
- Ensuring the school has appropriate filters and monitoring systems in place on its computing system to safeguard pupils during computing lessons.

The computing subject leader will be responsible for,

- Monitoring the progression of teaching and learning in computing.
- Managing resources and advising staff on the use of materials.
- Supporting teaching staff to deliver the computing curriculum and monitoring the quality of teaching and learning.
- Keeping abreast of technological developments and using these to inform practice.
- Leading staff training on new computing initiatives.
- Overseeing the implementation and reviewing of this policy.

Teachers will be responsible for,

- Planning and delivering lessons in line with this policy.
- Providing equality of opportunity to all pupils through their teaching approaches and methods.
- Keeping up-to-date assessment records where appropriate.
- Ensuring pupils' development of skills and knowledge progresses through their learning and understanding of computing.
- Setting pupils appropriate targets based on their needs and prior attainment.
- Maintaining an enthusiastic approach to computing.
- Taking part in computing training and other CPD opportunities.

The ICT technician will be responsible for:

- Maintaining and keeping computing equipment in good working order.
- Dealing with any reports of broken, damaged or faulty equipment.
- Ensuring the school's Cyber Response and Recovery Plan is adhered to.
- Carrying out checks on all computers when necessary.
- Adjusting access rights and security privileges in the interest of the school's data, information, network and computers.
- Monitoring the computer logs on the school's network and reporting inappropriate use to the headteacher.
- Disabling the user accounts of staff and pupils who do not follow school policies, at the request of the headteacher.
- Assisting staff with authorised use of computing facilities, if required.
- Assisting the headteacher in all matters requiring reconfiguration of security and access rights, and all matters relating to this policy.
- Accessing files and data to solve problems for a user, with their authorisation. If an investigation is required by the headteacher, authorisation from the user is not required.

Pupils will be responsible for:

- Using the school's computing facilities appropriately.
- Being aware of the school's rules around the use of computing equipment during lessons.
- Understanding how the use of computing improves learning.

Parents will be responsible for:

- Encouraging computing skills and safe computing use at home in line with our school online safety policy.

The curriculum

In KS1, pupils will be taught to:

- Understand what algorithms are, how they are implemented as programs on digital devices, and that programs execute by following precise and unambiguous instructions.
- Create and debug simple problems.
- Use logical reasoning to predict the behaviour of simple programs.
- Use technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content.
- Recognise common uses of information technology beyond schools.
- Use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private.
- Identify where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies.

In the Early Years computing is no longer one of the EYFS early learning goals. As a school we focus on teaching the pupils about online safety and giving them access to age-appropriate programs to explore, ready to start the national curriculum program of study in year one.

Homework

Formal computing homework is not set by class teachers; however, all children have their own personal Purple Mash account where they can log in and access all of the age-appropriate programs that they use at school.

Assessment

Teachers use their professional judgement to assess the children both formatively in each lesson and through summative assessment at the end of each academic term. We assess the children against the national curriculum objectives for their year group, to assess whether they are working at age related expectations.

Teaching

The teaching of computing will ensure that pupils of all abilities are able to engage with the curriculum as effectively as possible, enhancing their computing knowledge and skills.

The skills needed for pupils to access the wider curriculum using computing will be mapped and developed to ensure that pupils can use computing applications progressively through the curriculum. Teachers will use computing to allow pupils to investigate, solve problems, refine their work, learn from their mistakes and reflect critically.

There will be a good balance across the whole school between the high-quality use of computing to support and enhance teaching and learning, and the individual pupil's productive use of computing for their own learning. When administering homework tasks, teachers will be sensitive to the fact that pupils may not have access to a computer at home.

Computing will be used to support and extend learning beyond the school, through activities integrated with pupils' school-based learning.

Equal opportunities

All pupils will be provided with equal learning opportunities regardless of their background or characteristics, in line with the school's Equality Policy.

To ensure pupils with SEND can achieve to the best of their ability, learning is scaffolded by their class teacher, in order to support success. The school will look to utilise software systems that can be modified to aid language, spelling or reading development.

The school will aim to maximise the use and benefits of computing as one of many resources to enable all pupils to achieve their full potential.

Online learning and safeguarding

The school recognises the importance of teaching pupils about online safety, the potential dangers of the internet and their responsibilities when using communication technology as set out in the school's Online Safety Policy.

As part of the school's commitment to the principles outlined in the most recent version of KCSIE, the school will:

- Offer a safe online environment through filtered internet access.
- Ensure the filtering systems in place will prevent pupils from accessing terrorist and extremist materials, in accordance with the school's Online Safety Policy and the Prevent Duty.
- Take care to ensure the use of filtering and monitoring does not cause "over blocking", which may lead to unreasonable restrictions on what pupils can be taught.
- Participate in online safety week, including assemblies regarding the potential dangers of the internet and how to stay safe online.
- Teach pupils about internet safety and cyberbullying during PSHE lessons.

Pupils and staff who use the school's computing facilities inappropriately will be reported to the headteacher/ designated safeguarding lead.

The ICT technician will keep internet filters and other safeguarding controls up-to-date, to avoid misuse and protect pupils.

Health and safety

All electrical wires and sockets, where possible, will be kept out of the way of pupils.

Visual electrical inspections will be undertaken by the IT technician when flagged by a member of staff.

Pupils will be given screen breaks if they are using the computer for an extended period of time, when the class teacher deems it necessary.

Appropriate kit tests will be carried as required on technology used in school.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The school recognises that artificial intelligence (AI) is an increasingly important part of modern computing and digital life. AI tools may be used to support learning, creativity, and problem-solving; however, their use must be responsible, ethical, and transparent. Teachers will ensure that any work produced by children with the assistance of AI is clearly acknowledged and does not replace their own understanding or effort. Teachers will guide appropriate use, including safeguarding considerations, data privacy, and academic integrity, to ensure AI enhances learning rather than undermines it.

Implementation of this policy

The provision of the computing curriculum will be monitored and assessed by the computing subject leader and headteacher. The suitability of all ICT equipment and programs will be assessed and updated, if necessary, by the ICT technician, to ensure they are sufficient for effective learning.

Staff will be provided with high-quality training regarding both curriculum delivery and the safeguarding issues around online safety. Any breach of this policy will be reported to the headteacher.

Use of the school's internet connection and network use will be recorded and monitored by the ICT technician.

The ICT technician has the ability to remotely view or interact with any computers on the school's network. The ICT technician will use this to help implement this policy and to identify and solve any problems.

All members of staff directly involved with the teaching of computing will be required to familiarise themselves with this policy.

Amy Broad
IT Lead Teacher

Reviewed summer 2026
To be reviewed summer 2029

