Helping your child with Computing

We live in a rapidly changing technological world. This means that we need to ensure that our children grow up acquiring the skills, knowledge and understanding to use various forms of ICT in order to prepare them for life in the future.

Our approach to teaching Computing

Computing in the 21st Century is seen as an essential resource to support learning and teaching, as well as playing an important role in the everyday lives of children. At Doddinghurst Infant School we have built in the use of these technologies in order to arm our children with the skills to access life-long learning and employment.

Intent

- Children will thrive as digital citizens, who are confident and competent using a range of technology **positively, responsibly** and **safely**.

- The teaching of computing will enrich and enhance other areas of the curriculum, thereby inspiring a commitment to lifelong learning.

- We understand and promote, the accessibility opportunities technology can provide for all our pupils.

- Our high-quality computing education will produced learners who understand the concepts of computer science, solve problems, think logically and evaluate the use of Information Technology.

What Computing opportunities do we offer?

Computing is now fully embedded into the curriculum. This means that children use their skills to enhance learning in all subjects.

Computing takes place throughout the day. Each class has iPads to use to support all areas of the curriculum and we have a full suite of computers. Children develop the key skills planned for by their teacher according to the different areas of learning in Computing.

There are three aspects to computing at KS1:

Firstly, **Computer Science**, pupils are taught what algorithms are; how they are implemented as programs on digital devices; and that programs are execute by following precise and unambiguous instructions. Children create and debug simple programs, use logical reasoning to predict the behaviour of simple programs.

- Secondly, **Information Technology** which teaches children to use technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content.

- Finally, **Digital Literacy**, which teaches children to recognise the common uses of information technology beyond school. How to use technology safely and respectfully, keeping personal information private; identifying where to go for help and support when they have concerns about content or contact on the internet or other online technologies.

We have a wide range of software and online materials that we use to support curricular activities, which we regularly review. We are committed to using up to date digital resources and are subscribers to online Learning content such as Bug Club and Abacus.

Staff and children regularly upload work to the app Seesaw to communicate the children's achievements in the classroom to parents. Teachers also use the app to communicate home learning tasks to their class.

Interactive Whiteboard Technology

An interactive whiteboard is a large, touch sensitive board which is connected to a computer. The board displays the images from the computer so that the whole class can see. The computer can then be controlled by touching the board, either directly or with a 'mouse' pen. All classes at Doddinghurst Infant School use interactive whiteboard technology, which allows teachers to:

- Use web-based resources in whole-class teaching .
- Show video clips to help explain concepts.

- Demonstrate a piece of software.
- Create digital flipcharts.
- Manipulate text and practise handwriting.
- Save notes written on the board for future use .
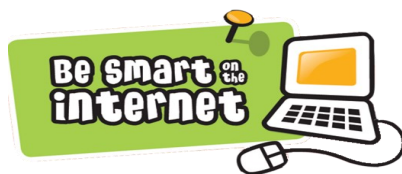- Enable quick and seamless revision of previous lessons.

Among the benefits for the learners, are

- Increased enjoyment and motivation.
- Greater opportunities for participation and collaboration, developing pupils' personal and social skills.
- Ability to cope with more complex concepts as a result of clearer, more efficient and more dynamic presentations.
- Development of different learning styles as teachers can call on a variety of resources to suit particular needs .
- Enrichment of pupils creative skills in presentations to their classmates, increasing self- confidence.

Children at Doddinghurst Infants are also encouraged to use a wide range of computer specific language. This vocabulary has been planned specifically so that it is built upon each year as the children progress with their learning.

Using the internet

The internet is fantastic for information and great for communication, but we all need to know how to use it safely

Your children are likely to have internet access in more than one place, so it's important to equip them with the skills to handle this new technology safely. Here are some top tips from www.thinkuknow.co.uk

1. Talk to your child about what they're up to online. Be a part of their online life; involve the whole family and show an interest. Find out what sites they visit and what they love about them, if they know you understand they are more likely to come to you if they have any problems.

2. Keep up-to-date with your child's development online. Children grow up fast and they will be growing in confidence and learning new skills daily. It's important

3. Set boundaries in the online world just as you would in the real world. Think about what they might see, what they share, who they talk to and how long they spend online. It is important to discuss boundaries at a young age to develop the tools and skills children need to enjoy their time online.

4. Keep all equipment that connects to the internet in a family space. For children of this age, it is important to keep internet use in family areas so you can see the sites your child is using and be there for them if they stumble across something they don't want to see.

Our school website

Visit our school website for useful information about our school as well as, links to fun games to complete at home:

http:// www.doddinghurstinfantschool.co.uk

You may also find these websites useful in supporting your child

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ primary

https://www.lgfl.net/learning-resources/grid

https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk

https://www.topmarks.co.uk/

https://beebot.terrapinlogo.com/

https://scratch.mit.edu/

www.crickweb.co.uk

www.thekidzpage.com

www.parentsintouch.co.uk

www.mathletics.co.uk

www.activelearn.co.uk

https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/

http://www.twinkl.co.uk/