Computing

Rational

At Pens Meadow we understand that our pupils are living in a world where they are constantly surrounded by devices and technology which is changing the world for everyone. We believe that our pupils need to be prepared for participation in the rapidly changing world where work and leisure activities are increasingly transformed by technology. It is crucial that our pupils are able to use technology positively, responsibly and safely, understanding the choices that they have around technology use.

Our computing curriculum is a conceptualised curriculum based upon up-to-date research about how children learn as well as how to meet the ranging needs of learners with complex difficulties. It builds upon the expectations of Birth to Five Matters and the PSHE guidance whilst reflecting the views of all school stakeholders at Pens Meadow School. Documents have been carefully broken down into meaningful components and carefully sequenced to enable pupils to revisit and review previous learning and build upon their developing skills and understanding.

Curriculum coverage has been planned to ensure that pupils develop their knowledge, skills and understanding throughout school. Computing is taught as a discrete subject from EYFS up to key stage 5. In Year 14 pupils are given the opportunity to contextualise their skills to create their own leaver's passports and presentations. Computing skills are also threaded throughout other curriculum subjects and contextualised wherever possible.

Our cyclic approach, to computing curriculum coverage, ensures that all pupils have opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills progressively as they move through school, whilst revisiting key content ensuring learning is embedded. Our coverage includes the three main computing curriculum strands:
- Computer science
- Information Technology
- Digital Literacy

Our Computing progression document enables learning to be pitched at individual pupil's zone of challenge in line with their development level enabling the planning of accurate end points and targeted progress.

Intent

At Pens Meadow School we aim to prepare our pupils for life beyond school by enhancing their opportunities for lifelong learning and give them fundamental skills for their future. We understand that computing gives pupils a wealth of learning and applicable, transferable skills that can be used to participate effectively and safely in the digital world.

We ensure that our pupils are provided with rich, high-quality learning that aims to:

- Enable pupils to communicate their understanding and interest in computing through carefully adapted experiences supported by a total communication environment.
- Explicitly teach computing vocabulary alongside new knowledge.
- Support pupils to recognise how technology is used across the wider world.
- Teach pupils how to keep safe when using modern technology and the internet.
- Use skills to use and embrace technology in a socially responsible way.
- Develop pupil's confidence in choosing the best tools to complete a task.