Computing

"It is not that we use technology, we live technology." – Godfrey Reggio

Intent
At Balcombe School, we recognise that technology is everywhere and will play a pivotal part in our pupils' lives. It is our intention to prepare children for the rapidly changing technological world in which we live. We aim to stimulate children's curiosity to use technology positively and safely and be responsible and respectful digital citizens.

Our intention is that Computing supports children's creativity and cross curricular learning, it engages them and enriches their experiences in school.

Not only do we want them to be digitally literate and competent end-users of technology but through our computer science lessons we want them to develop creativity, resilience, problem-solving and critical thinking skills. We want our pupils to have a breadth of experience to develop their understanding of themselves as individuals within their community but also as members of a wider global community.

Implementation

A variety of experiences at Balcombe will equip pupils with the skills and knowledge needed for an ever changing digital world.

Our Computing curriculum provides coverage in line with the National Curriculum. Teaching and learning facilitates progression across all key stages within the strands of digital literacy, information technology and computer science. These strands are revisited repeatedly through a range of themes during children's time in school to ensure the learning is embedded and skills are successfully developed. Throughout all year groups children are taught 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. These skills are taught through specific units and reinforced throughout each year to children. The following documents underpin our computing curriculum:

* Education for A Connected World – 2020 (UK Council for Internet Safety)
* Teach Computing Curriculum (National Centre for Computing Education)
* Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Statutory Guidance (September 2021)

Impact

We want children to leave Balcombe school:

- confident, competent and responsible users of technology with the skills needed to accomplish a wide variety of goals both in school and in the wider world
- critical thinkers that can solve problems
- creative and imaginative using technology to present, record and share their work to a wider audience
- aware of technological uses and developments in the wider world
- understanding that the key to an effective education and healthy lifestyle is about finding a balance between digital and non-digital experiences