Intent

At St Ives Infants School our aim is to provide a high-quality computing education which will stimulate pupils' curiosity to learn and challenge their thinking skills. We want our pupils to feel confident in an ever-changing technological world and be ready for the future. Computing allows the pupils to become logical thinkers and problem solvers by embedding Computational Thinking skills throughout the curriculum. We aim to give pupils opportunities to explore key areas of Computing, including decomposing problems, creating and writing their own algorithms and assessing the effectiveness of their learning through debugging their work and evaluating its success. We also want to enable pupils to make safe choices when using technology and empower others to be responsible for the choices they make.

Implementation

In EYFS we recognise the importance of teaching children basic computing skills as well as the importance of online safety. The new updated curriculum has removed the 'technology' strand from 'understanding the world'. Computing and technology are still vitally important subjects to deliver to Reception children. Not only does it ensures that children enter Year 1 with a strong foundation of knowledge but Computing in the EYFS also ensure that children develop listening skills, problem-solving abilities and thoughtful questioning — as well as improving subject skills across the seven areas of learning. In the EYFS we will continue to build upon skills involving taking photographs with an iPad, using a variety of electronic toys and playing games on the interactive whiteboard.

In Key Stage 1, our teaching implements the computing National Curriculum which is comprised of 3 main parts: Online Safety and Digital Literacy, Information Technology and Computer Science. Knowledge and skills are taught progressively, allowing the children to embed their learning over time.

Online Safety and Digital Literacy involves using computing purposefully as a tool for learning. Our children learn to use the internet to search for information and use the keyboard to type text. They learn how to be safe online and responsible digital citizens.

Computer Science teaches the principles of information and computation. Our children build their understanding of algorithms by using a range of devices to write simple programs such as Scratch.

Information Technology is the understanding of how a computer is used. Launching and closing a program, using basic keyboard skills, modifying work and creating things such as posters.

Impact

After the implementation of this robust computing curriculum, children at St Ives Infants School will be digitally literate and able to join the rest of the world on its digital platform. They will be equipped, not only with the skills and knowledge to use technology effectively, but more importantly – safely. The biggest impact on our children is that they understand the consequences of using the internet and that they are also aware of how to keep themselves safe online.