

Computing

Intent

In such an advanced world we believe at Westcott, that all of our children should be strong computational thinkers in computer science, information technology, and digital literacy, to be effective and secure in the digital world. As such, the children at Westcott will be given regular opportunities to be technicians, using a range of software and devices, such as chromebooks and iPads, providing the platforms and time to learn and develop.

Implementation

- At Westcott, the computing curriculum received is extensive and rich, giving the children the best possible opportunity to gain knowledge and enhance skills through the academic year.
- To maximise proficiency and build upon skills, technology will be embedded in the curriculum, as an addition to computing sessions.
- A wide range of software will be provided to enable a wide breadth of coverage in computing lessons.

Impact

- Children will use technology safely and be aware of their online responsibilities.
- Children will gain robust knowledge and understanding of computer science and information technology.
- Computing and technology will be promoted, meaning the children can grow into computational thinkers.
- Children will be motivated to enhance their digital skills and will have increased proficiency, with technology, completing tasks on a range of software.

At Westcott Primary, the children say that Computing is... "fun, interesting and helps them to learn about different aspects of computing by challenging them."

Our technicians

One of the main focuses for the technicians at Westcott is to ensure that they are all proficient and confident using a range of technology and a range of software. We are aware of the need for being confident and safe users of technology in modern society, and we aim to instil this confidence through a rich curriculum which stretches and challenges all children. Our aim is to give our children the necessary skills and motivation to be able to safely and proficiently use different software and devices, and to make sure that technology is not a barrier to a modern life for our children.

The Sequence

- As they work through different projects, children will be able to access a range of software on iPads and chromebooks to learn a breadth of skills. All of these skills are additions to the taught core principles of digital safety.
- The whole-school sequence at Westcott repeats and builds on skills which have been learned to ensure progression.
- As children progress through the school, they will be able to recall and use their own skills independently to become proficient technology users.

The Learning

- The children at Westcott are driven to use different devices and software, which has led to technology being embedded throughout the curriculum.
- The children thoroughly enjoy being able to create their own computing 'portfolio' as they complete tasks with individual accounts, and seize every moment to explore the software at hand.
- With prior modelling and explanations, children have freedom in the sessions to explore, create, and become critical thinkers, solving problems or utilising new ideas to maximise their experience.

The Teaching

- At Westcott, the computing curriculum is taught discretely, with teachers ensuring a specific focus or skill in each session, so that the children have purposeful, effective learning.
- The specific skills in computing sessions allow for progression throughout the academic year, and the overall school journey.
- Computing is taught at Westcott in conjunction with Mr Andrews Online, with teachers modelling and explaining the curriculum skills which paves the way for a meaningful computing experience for the children.
- There are also regular opportunities throughout the school to embed digital literacy understanding.