

Computing at St Matthew's

Computing is an integral part of the digital world in which we live in. Therefore providing children with a high-quality computing education will give them the opportunity to understand the modern day world that we live in. Furthermore, it will develop their creativity and understanding while providing them with solid foundations, which will prepare them for their future.

The new National Curriculum separates the computing curriculum into three strands.

Computer Science	ICT skills	Digital Literacy
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Computer science: This teaches pupils about how digital systems work and how to use this knowledge in programming.

ICT skills: This teaches children to feel confident using a range of devices and to use them at a level suitable for future workplaces. Also this will allow them to be an active user within our increasingly digital world.

Digital literacy: This covers a large section of the computing curriculum; it lends itself well to other curriculum areas and teaches children how to be a competent and responsible user of ICT.

At St Matthew's

At St Matthew's we are developing our knowledge and teaching of the curriculum. All children, throughout school, have access to iPads where they use a variety of programs to good effect; these enhance learning opportunities and develop new skills.

Children are taught from an early age to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly.

The children in Key Stage 2 are competent users of the World Wide Web and they understand how using this tool can provide them with information and allow them to take charge of their own learning, giving them a wider variety.

We are currently introducing a skills based scheme, which will allow the children to be learning appropriate age related skills that can be built on during their time and St Matthew's.

Annually, we look at cyber-safety and teach children how to use the internet safely; we aim to promote the positive side of using the internet although we do tackle cyber-bullying during our anti-bullying lessons. (See our cyber-safety policy for further information). Also we have held a parental workshop with Tanya Cross, one of Stockport's PSHE experts.

In light of this, we as a school, are going to be developing the use of social media and blogging, to demonstrate how this type of technology is a great way of learning about the world we live in but highlighting how to use these digital programs appropriately.

At St Matthew's we hope to develop our children in to safe and confident users of ICT.