**Computing Policy**

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**Weald Community Primary School**

**2024-2025**

**Computing Policy – Contents**

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DFE states a high-quality computing education equips pupils to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world.

At Weald, we believe that Computing is an integral part of preparing children to live in a world where technology is rapidly evolving. It is important that children can participate in the creation of new tools to fully grasp the relevance and the possibilities of emerging technology. Our technology has enabled teachers to become innovative educators, smartly creating teaching from what learners want to learn.

**1) Purpose**

Computing in the National Curriculum expectations split the teaching and learning of Computing into three strands:

* Computer Science
* Digital Literacy
* Information Technology

It is therefore important that children recognise the difference between what makes each one relevant to their future, as well as their everyday lives. Formal high quality teaching of Computing from Year 1 through to Year 6, utilises a combination of practical lessons and theory lessons designed to promote and nurture understanding, which are also relevant to other areas of the curriculum such as PSHE and Citizenship.

The policy sets out a framework within which teaching staff can operate and give guidance on planning, teaching, and assessment. This policy should be read in conjunction with the scheme of learning for Computing that sets out in detail what children in different year groups will be taught and how computing can facilitate or enhance learning in other curriculum areas.

The document is intended for:

All teaching staff.

All staff with classroom responsibilities

School Governors,

Parents,

Inspection Teams,

Copies of this policy are kept centrally and online.

**2) Aims**

**Computer Science**

* To enable children to become confident coders on a range of devices.
* To create opportunities for collaborative and independent learning.
* To develop children’s understanding of technology and how it is constantly evolving.

**Digital Literacy**

* To enable a safe computing environment through appropriate computing behaviours.
* To allow children to explore a range of digital devices.
* To promote pupils spiritual, moral and cultural development.

**Information Technology**

* To develop Computing as a cross curricular tool for learning and progression.
* To promote learning through the development of thinking skills.
* To enable children to understand and appreciate their place in the modern world.

**3) Values at Weald within Computing**

Children at Weald demonstrate the following values whilst learning about Computing by:

**Democracy**

* Listen to others everyone’s ideas in order to form a majority.
* Working as part of a team and collaborating to use computing devices effectively.

**Rules of Law**

* Develop knowledge of lawful computing behaviours
* Demonstrating respect for computing laws.

**Individual Liberty**

* Taking responsibility for our own computing behaviours
* Challenging stereotypes and bias.
* Exercising rights and personal freedoms safely through the knowledge of E-Safety.

**Respect and Tolerance**

* Showing respect for other cultures when undertaking research using computer devices.
* Providing opportunities for pupils of all backgrounds to achieve in computing,

**4) Objectives**

In order to develop the Computing capability and understanding of each child we will provide through our planning:

* Computing all three strands taught within the classroom.
* Continuity throughout the school to ensure that experience and skills are developed in a cohesive and consistent way.
* Access to iPads, Chromebooks and Interactive Whiteboards within class.
* Experience a variety of well-planned structured and progressive activities.
* Experience cross curricular links to widen children’s knowledge of the capability of computing including safe use of the internet and other digital equipment.
* Opportunities for children to recognise the value of computing in their everyday lives and their future working life as active participants in a digital world.

By doing this we will fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum.

**5) Equal opportunities, Inclusion, Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**

It is our policy at Weald to ensure that all children, regardless of race, class or gender, should have the opportunity to develop computing capability. We aim to respond to children needs and overcome potential barriers for individuals and groups of children by:

* Ensuring that children follow the scheme of learning for Computing.
* Provide curriculum materials and programmes, which are in no way class, gender or racially prejudice or biased.
* Providing opportunities for our children who do not have access at home to use the school computers/internet to develop independent learning.
* Provide suitable challenges for more able children, as well support for those who have emerging needs.
* Responding to the diversity of children’s social, cultural backgrounds.
* Overcome barriers to learning through the use of assessment and additional support.
* Communication or language difficulties by developing computing skills through the use of all their individual senses and strengths.
* Movement or physical difficulties by developing computing skills through utilising their individual strengths.
* Behaviour or emotional difficulties (including stress or trauma) by developing the understanding of their own learning behaviours.

**6) Assessment**

Children in Weald will be assessed and appraised of their progress in understanding and applying computing skills.

Pupil voice will allow pupils to actively communicate their own self-assessment of their learning in Computing. Pupil teacher discussions and peer assessments will also help to support pupil’s assessment. Teacher assessments of computing capability will be recorded throughout the year. Examples of work should be saved and records to form a judgement of pupil’s level of attainment at the end of each key stage.

**7) Health and Safety**

Weald School takes very seriously the health and safety issues surrounding children’s use of Computing. We ensure that pupils have a safe environment in which to learn. We ensure that effective filters are in place to safeguard pupils. As such we ensure that:

* All fixed and portable appliances in school are tested by an approved contractor.
* Damaged equipment is reported to the school office manager who will arrange for repair or disposal.
* E-safety is discretely taught each term by class teachers. Please see our website - Information- Online Safety Policy.
* Children learn about rights and responsibilities when using the internet.
* Children are encouraged to take ownership of their own online time and time allocated to devices, both at home and school this works alongside our PSHE policy at Weald.

**8) Security, Legislation, Copyright and Data Protection**

We ensure that the school community is kept safe by ensuring that:

* The school’s Computing support Technician – ‘Carbon Cloud’ is responsible for regularly updating anti-virus software.
* The use of Computing and computing will be in line with the school’s online safety policy.
* All staff, volunteers and children sign a copy of Weald School’s online safety policy.
* Parents are made aware of online safety policy at school entry.
* All children are aware of the school rules for responsible use on the login and the school network via assemblies and class discussions.
* Reminders for safe and responsible use of Computing and computing and the internet could be displayed.
* No personal software should be loaded onto school’s computers.
* All members of staff to read schools Mobile phone/ Camera Policy and Social Media Policy and the School’s Data Protection Policy

**9) Curriculum Development and Organisation**

Our scheme of learning is based on the National Curriculum guidelines and has been adapted in conjunction with Weald’s Creative Curriculum. All units of teaching and learning are differentiated.

Individual Chromebooks and laptops, support the development of Computing capability by enabling independent learning; encouraging research, and allowing for the creative use of Computing in all subjects. Interactive smartboards are positioned in all classrooms and are used as a teaching and learning, emotive and language experiences and responses through cross-curricular exploration of ideas and themes.

**10) Internet Safety**

Internet access is planned at Weald to enrich and extend learning activities across the curriculum. To protect our pupils and ensure that all pupils are responsible and safe our E Safety Policy has been created to protect all parties. To further ensure the safety of pupils we will teach each class the rights and responsibilities of using the internet.

* The E Safety Policy can be found on the website under Information.
* A parental letter for Computing safety will be sent home each year.
* The school will participate in E Safety week each year as part of its commitment to support pupils.

**11) Roles and Responsibilities**

All staff will provide support to:

* Determine the ways in which Computing supports, enriches and extends the curriculum.
* Senior Teams will decide on the provision and allocation of resources. Creating a timetable for resources.
* Ensure that Computing is used in a way that achieves the aims and objectives of the school.

The Computing Team will oversee the planning and delivery of Computing within the School through;

* Facilitating the use of Computing across the curriculum in collaboration with all subject leaders. It is vital to ensure that all National Curriculum requirements are being met with regards to Computing within curriculum subjects.
* Providing or organising training to keep staff skills and knowledge up to date.
* Advising colleagues about effective teaching strategies, managing equipment and purchasing resources.
* Managing the delivery of the Computing Curriculum and reporting to the Head Teacher and the Governors.

It is the responsibility of the individual teacher to plan and teach appropriate Computing activities and assist the Computing Team in the monitoring and recording of pupil progress in the subjects.

**12) Monitoring**

Monitoring from the Computing Team enables an overview of Computing and Computing teaching and learning throughout the school. This will assist the school in the self-evaluation process of identifying areas of strength as well as those for development.

The Computing Leadership Team will:

* Observe teaching and learning in the classroom.
* Hold discussions with teachers and the children.
* Analyse children’s work.
* Examine plans to ensure full coverage of the Computing and cross curricular Computing requirements.

**13) Home School Links**

Our school website promotes the school and the children’s achievements as well as providing information and communication between school, parents and the local community. Texts and/or emails are sent to parents as reminders or to inform instead of sending letters home with children.

Using ‘Teams’ provides an engaging, aligned and in person online platform for Weald pupils and parents. Teams provides the need to be able to transition to remote learning quickly. It is used to hold classroom meetings, consultations, collaborate on virtual whiteboards to support good teaching practise and home school links. It is used to support pupils learning from home.

**14) Deployment of Computing/Computing Resources**

To enable regular and whole class teaching of Computing, teachers have access to a bank of Chromebooks and laptops as well as a shared bank of iPads and cameras.

Every class has an interactive touch-screen board linked to a main laptop on the school network. The school hall has a ceiling mounted projector and a retractable screen.