New Pasture Lane Primary School

Computing Policy

Date of This Review	November 2026
Date Approved by Governing Body	November 2026
Date of Next Review	November 2027

Introduction and Curriculum Vision

At New Pasture Lane School, we recognise that computing and digital technology play an increasingly important role in everyday life. We are committed to providing a high-quality Computing curriculum which equips all pupils with the knowledge, skills and understanding necessary to participate confidently, creatively and safely in an ever-changing digital world.

We believe that Computing is an essential part of the curriculum and that all pupils should have the opportunity to develop their computational thinking, problem-solving, creativity and digital literacy. Through a progressive and engaging programme of study, pupils are encouraged to explore how technology works, understand its potential and recognise the impact it has on themselves, others and society.

We aim to develop responsible, competent, confident and creative users of technology who are able to apply their learning across the curriculum and beyond school. We also recognise the importance of preparing pupils for emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI), and supporting them to understand both the opportunities and potential risks these developments present.

This policy provides a framework for the planning, teaching, assessment and monitoring of Computing throughout New Pasture Lane School.

Aims

The overall aim of Computing at New Pasture Lane School is to ensure that all pupils develop the skills and knowledge needed to become digitally literate, independent and responsible users of technology.

The National Curriculum for Computing aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation.
- Analyse problems in computational terms and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs to solve problems.
- Evaluate and apply information technology, including new and unfamiliar technologies, to solve problems.
- Become responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology.

Through our Computing curriculum, we aim to provide opportunities for pupils to:

- Develop computational thinking and problem-solving skills through logical reasoning, programming and debugging.
- Understand how digital systems work and how technology is used in everyday life.
- Use a range of digital tools and applications to create, organise, store and present information.
- Develop confidence and independence when using technology.

- Communicate and collaborate effectively using appropriate digital platforms.
- Understand the importance of online safety, privacy and responsible digital behaviour.
- Recognise the benefits, limitations and potential risks of digital technology.
- Develop an understanding of artificial intelligence and learn to question and evaluate AI-generated information.
- Apply their Computing knowledge and skills across other curriculum areas.
- Develop curiosity, creativity and resilience when exploring new technologies.

Curriculum Implementation

At New Pasture Lane School, Computing is taught as a discrete subject once a week. We use the **Kapow Primary Computing scheme of work** to support the planning and delivery of a broad, balanced and progressive Computing curriculum.

The Kapow Primary scheme provides a structured sequence of learning, allowing pupils to revisit and build upon prior knowledge and develop their Computing skills as they progress through the school. Teachers use the scheme to support lesson planning and ensure that pupils experience a range of Computing activities and opportunities.

The curriculum covers the key areas of the National Curriculum and the Kapow Primary scheme:

Computing Systems and Networks

Pupils develop an understanding of how computers and digital systems work, including hardware, software, networks and the internet. They explore how technology is used in everyday life and how devices communicate and share information.

Programming

Pupils develop computational thinking through creating, testing and debugging algorithms and programs. They learn to solve problems using logical reasoning and develop their understanding of programming concepts.

Data Handling

Pupils learn how to collect, organise, analyse and present information. They develop an understanding of how data is represented and used, and how digital tools can help us interpret and communicate information.

Creating Media

Pupils use a range of digital applications to create, develop and evaluate digital content. This may include producing digital images, documents, presentations, animations, audio and video.

Online Safety

Pupils develop the knowledge and understanding needed to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly. They explore online risks, understand how to protect personal information and learn how to respond to concerns when using digital technology.

These areas are revisited throughout the school, enabling pupils to develop their knowledge and skills with increasing depth and confidence.

In addition to timetabled Computing lessons, staff have the opportunity to book additional sessions in the computer suite and access to the school's iPads. This allows teachers to provide further opportunities for pupils to practise and apply their digital skills and to enhance learning across the wider curriculum.

Computing is also used as a tool to support teaching and learning in other subjects, helping pupils to develop transferable digital skills and recognise how technology can enhance learning.

Teaching and Learning

Computing is taught through a combination of practical activities, demonstrations, discussion, investigation and independent learning.

Teachers use the Kapow Primary scheme to support lesson planning and ensure that pupils experience a structured progression of knowledge and skills. Lessons are adapted to meet the needs and abilities of individual pupils, providing appropriate support and challenge.

Pupils are encouraged to develop independence, resilience, creativity and problem-solving skills. Opportunities are provided for pupils to work collaboratively, share ideas, explain their thinking and evaluate their own work.

The school's Teaching and Learning Policy underpins the delivery of Computing, ensuring that expectations for effective teaching, learning, assessment and inclusion are consistent across the curriculum.

Staff are encouraged to make effective use of the computer suite and iPads to provide additional opportunities for pupils to develop and apply their Computing skills beyond their weekly timetabled lesson.

Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

At New Pasture Lane School, we believe that all pupils should have equal opportunities to access and succeed in Computing, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, cultural background, ability or disability.

Teaching is adapted to meet the individual needs of pupils, ensuring that all children can participate fully and make progress.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are supported through appropriate differentiation, resources and adjustments to encourage participation and independence. Technology is recognised as a valuable tool for supporting accessibility, communication and individual learning needs.

Pupils who demonstrate particular strengths or interests in Computing are provided with opportunities for additional challenge and enrichment, where appropriate. This may include extended learning opportunities, mentoring and external workshops where available.

We also recognise that pupils may have different levels of access to technology outside school. Our provision aims to ensure that all children have appropriate opportunities to develop the digital skills and knowledge they need.

Resources and Access to Technology

The school provides access to a range of digital resources to support the delivery of the Computing curriculum and learning across other subjects.

These include:

- A dedicated computer suite.
- School iPads.
- Approved software, applications and online learning platforms.
- Digital resources to support programming, creativity and online safety.

Computing lessons take place weekly, with staff able to book additional sessions in the computer suite and use of the iPads to support learning across the curriculum.

Each pupil has been allocated a specific iPad number. This enables the school to identify individual devices and supports closer monitoring and investigation of any filtering or monitoring alerts generated through the school's safeguarding systems.

The school also provides a number of iPads which can be loaned to parents to support pupils' access to the curriculum at home. All loaned devices are controlled, filtered and monitored using Mosyle School Safe Internet to help ensure safe and secure use.

Online Safety and Safeguarding

Online safety is an integral part of Computing and is recognised as an important aspect of the school's wider safeguarding responsibilities.

Pupils are taught how to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly. Online safety is addressed through the Kapow Primary Computing curriculum and reinforced whenever pupils use digital technology across the school.

Pupils are taught about a range of online risks and how to respond appropriately. These include:

- Cyberbullying and harmful online behaviour.
- Online grooming and inappropriate contact.
- Sharing personal information and protecting privacy.
- Inappropriate content and online communication.
- Misinformation, disinformation and unreliable sources.
- Online scams, phishing and fraudulent activity.
- Digital footprints and online reputations.
- Screen time and digital wellbeing.
- The responsible use of artificial intelligence and AI-generated content.

Pupils are encouraged to think critically about what they see and read online and understand that not everything presented digitally is accurate, appropriate or trustworthy.

Children are taught to report anything that makes them feel uncomfortable, worried or unsafe to a trusted adult.

The school follows the statutory guidance *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026* and relevant Department for Education guidance on filtering and monitoring.

Further details of the school's online safety expectations, procedures, filtering and monitoring arrangements are set out in the separate E-Safety Policy.

Filtering and Monitoring

The school uses filtering and monitoring systems to help protect pupils and staff from harmful, inappropriate and illegal online content.

Filtering systems aim to prevent access to unsuitable websites and content, while monitoring systems identify potentially concerning online activity and generate alerts for appropriate investigation.

The school uses Jamf School Safe Internet to manage, filter and monitor its iPads, including devices loaned to families.

Each pupil has an individually allocated iPad number. This allows staff to identify the device associated with an alert and supports the investigation of potential safeguarding concerns.

Staff are expected to remain vigilant when pupils are using technology and to respond appropriately to any concerns or alerts. Any safeguarding concerns are dealt with in accordance with the school's safeguarding procedures and referred to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), where appropriate.

Filtering and monitoring arrangements are reviewed to ensure they remain effective and appropriate for the needs of the school, in line with current DfE standards.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education

New Pasture Lane School recognises that artificial intelligence is becoming an increasingly significant part of modern society and will have an impact on the way people live, work and learn.

We aim to prepare pupils to understand and engage with AI in an age-appropriate and responsible way.

Pupils are encouraged to develop an understanding of:

- What artificial intelligence is and how it is used in everyday life.
- The opportunities and limitations of AI technology.
- The importance of questioning and checking AI-generated information.
- The potential for bias, inaccuracies and misleading content.
- Copyright, ownership and the ethical use of digital content.
- The importance of protecting personal information when using AI tools.

Any use of AI to support teaching and learning must be appropriate, carefully considered and in line with the school's safeguarding and data protection responsibilities.

Pupils will only use AI tools where appropriate safeguards are in place, with suitable adult supervision and consideration of age restrictions.

Staff are encouraged to develop their understanding of AI and emerging technologies through relevant professional development, ensuring that new developments are considered carefully and used responsibly.

Assessment and Recording

Assessment is an integral part of the Computing curriculum and is used to identify pupils' understanding, monitor progress and inform future teaching.

Teachers assess pupils' knowledge and skills through a range of approaches, including:

- Observation of practical activities.
- Questioning and discussion.
- Evaluation of completed tasks and digital outcomes.
- Assessment of programming and problem-solving activities.
- Pupils' ability to explain their learning and use appropriate Computing vocabulary.
- Pupils' understanding of online safety and responsible technology use.

Teachers assess pupils' progress termly, supported by the Computing Subject Leader.

Pupil voice and digital literacy activities are also used to gain an understanding of pupils' confidence, knowledge and attitudes towards Computing, including their awareness of online safety and emerging technologies such as AI.

Assessment information is used to identify strengths and areas for development and to ensure that pupils continue to build on their previous learning.

Role and Responsibilities

The Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for supporting the effective implementation of the Computing curriculum and ensuring that appropriate resources, training and safeguarding arrangements are in place.

The Computing Subject Leader

The Computing Subject Leader is responsible for:

- Supporting staff with the planning and delivery of the Computing curriculum.
- Monitoring the quality of teaching and learning in Computing.
- Reviewing curriculum coverage and progression throughout the school.
- Supporting staff in developing their confidence and competence in teaching Computing.
- Keeping up to date with developments in Computing, digital technology and online safety.
- Identifying areas for improvement and contributing to the school's development priorities.
- Reviewing and maintaining the Computing policy.
- Monitoring assessment information and pupil progress.
- Supporting the effective use and development of Computing resources.

Class Teachers

Class teachers are responsible for:

- Delivering the Computing curriculum through weekly timetabled lessons.
- Providing opportunities for pupils to develop and apply Computing skills across the curriculum.
- Assessing pupils' knowledge, understanding and progress.
- Ensuring that pupils use technology safely and responsibly.
- Reinforcing online safety messages whenever pupils access digital technology.
- Making appropriate use of the computer suite and iPads to enhance learning.
- Reporting any online safety or safeguarding concerns in accordance with school procedures.

Governors

Governors have responsibility for maintaining oversight of the school's Computing provision and ensuring that appropriate arrangements are in place to support online safety, filtering, monitoring and safeguarding.

The governing body receives annual updates on relevant developments and the effectiveness of the school's provision.

Home Learning and Parental Engagement

New Pasture Lane School recognises the importance of developing strong home-school links to support pupils' digital learning.

Pupils have access to a range of approved online learning resources to support learning at home, including:

- Mathletics
- Reading Eggs
- Education City
- Times Tables Rock Stars

Parents are encouraged to support their children in developing safe and responsible online habits. The school provides guidance to parents about online safety, digital wellbeing and the appropriate use of technology.

Where required, the school can loan iPads to families to help pupils access learning resources and support their education at home.

All loaned devices are managed through Mosyle School Safe Internet, ensuring that appropriate filtering and monitoring arrangements remain in place.

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Data Protection and Copyright

New Pasture Lane School is committed to protecting the personal information of pupils, staff and families.

The school complies with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018, alongside its wider data protection and information security responsibilities.

Pupils are taught about the importance of keeping personal information private and understanding how information shared online can be collected, stored and used.

Staff must ensure that digital tools, software and online platforms are used appropriately and that personal or sensitive information is not shared through unapproved services.

Pupils are also encouraged to respect copyright and intellectual property when using digital content, images, music and other online resources.

Monitoring and Review

The Headteacher and Computing Subject Leader are responsible for overseeing the implementation and effectiveness of the Computing curriculum.

The impact of the curriculum is monitored through:

- Pupil discussions and pupil voice.
- Review of pupils' work and digital outcomes.
- Discussions with teaching staff.
- Monitoring of curriculum coverage and progression.
- Review of assessment information.
- Evaluation of resources and staff training needs.
- Review of online safety, filtering and monitoring arrangements.

Information gathered through monitoring is used to identify strengths, address areas for development and inform future improvements to Computing provision.

The delivery of Computing is also considered in conjunction with the school's Teaching and Learning Policy, ensuring that expectations for teaching and learning are consistent across all subjects.

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if there are significant changes to legislation, statutory guidance, technology or the school's provision.

Related Policies and Guidance

This policy should be read alongside:

- Teaching and Learning Policy.
- E-Safety Policy.
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.
- Acceptable Use Policy.
- Data Protection Policy.

The policy takes account of relevant legislation and statutory and non-statutory guidance, including:

- National Curriculum in England: Computing Programmes of Study.
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026.
- Online Safety Act 2023.
- Department for Education Filtering and Monitoring Standards.
- UK General Data Protection Regulation.
- Data Protection Act 2018.
- Equality Act 2010.
- Children and Families Act 2014.
- Department for Education guidance on Generative Artificial Intelligence in Education.