**Margaret Roper Primary School**

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**Catholic Primary School**

**Digital Learning Policy**

‘Education should prepare young people for jobs that do not yet exist, using technologies that have not yet been invented, to solve problems of which we are not yet aware.’ Richard Riley (no date).

**Rationale**

The use of technology is continually increasing and developing in every area of society, and this is only going to continue as our pupils grow up. In order to successfully prepare our pupils for life, learning and work, we need to ensure we are providing them with the skills they will need to be successful. Digital skills need to be taught alongside and embedded throughout the curriculum.

**Introduction:**

 In Margaret Roper Primary School we are fully committed to the use of Digital Learning and Technologies to develop, support, supplement and enhance the learning and teaching experience for all our pupils. We aim to develop pupil’s digital capabilities and ensure that they are all given opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills needed for life, learning and work, in our ever changing technological society. By developing and implementing practical, relevant and progressive digital plans, policies and documents, we can promote a fully inclusive, digital curriculum which prepares our pupils for their future.

**Digital Literacy:**

Digital learning is described as ‘any type of learning facilitated by technology or that makes effective use of technology’ (Education and Training, 2015). Digital literacy takes this further by using digital learning and encompassing it throughout life, learning and work. Digital literacy is described as the ability to produce clear information through various forms of communication on a digital platform. Being digitally literate means that pupils will be able to do more than just use technology. They will be able to use their digital skills to support and develop their learning throughout the curriculum.

**Vision for Digital Learning**

* To develop pupil’s digital capabilities and ensure that they are all given opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills needed for life, learning and work.
* To use digital technology to enrich our teaching and learning across all areas of the curriculum.
* To equip our children with the vital digital skills needed to adapt in our ever-changing technological society.
* To develop the skills and confidence of educators in the appropriate and effective use of digital technology to support learning and teaching (Education Scotland, 2018)
* Improve access to digital technology for all learners
* Ensure that digital technology is a central consideration in all areas of curriculum and assessment delivery

**Aims**

The School’s aims are

* To teach digital literacy as an academic discipline, recognising that it underpins many other subjects and has concepts and ways of working that they will use as adults, such as computational thinking, programming, algorithms and data structure, systems architecture, design and problem solving.
* To recognise that computer science is a highly creative discipline which develops key thinking skills of logical reasoning, modelling, abstraction, and problem-solving.
* To enable all children to use IT with purpose and enjoyment by providing tasks which are interesting and give scope for individual responsibility thereby empowering children to become independent and collaborative learners who take increasing responsibility for their own progress
* To enable all children to develop the necessary skills to use IT effectively.
* To enable all children to become autonomous users of IT by providing a digital literacy- rich learning environment throughout the school, providing a relevant, challenging and enjoyable curriculum for all children
* To develop e-learning, including the use of the internet, cloud based learning and e-mail, so that learning can take place at home or wherever there is access to IT, and to create links both locally and internationally.
* To ensure that IT is used to improve access to learning for pupils with a diverse range of individual needs, including those who are more able, with SEN and disabilities.
* To understand the capabilities and limitations of IT and the implications and consequences of its use.
* To be open-minded in their approach to IT so that they will be able to adapt easily to the IT systems and approaches they will encounter in their future lives
* To respond to new developments in technology.
* To empower children with the opportunities to share their IT and computing expertise to train and support their peers.
* To consolidate and further the cross curricular links between IT and other subjects, particularly in the arts and English.
* To provide all staff with individualised professional development opportunities, including frequent IT and computing training.
* To equip all children with an awareness to keep themselves safe in an increasingly online world.

 **Equipment**

Each class has access to laptops to use in their classrooms. This allows for the creative use of IT across all subjects and allows for specific teaching of digital literacy. This is highlighted in the digital literacy plan and in subject plans.

Each classroom is equipped with an interactive whiteboard, which are frequently used as a teaching resource across the curriculum.

Digital cameras are available for use in creative subjects.

**Safety**

The school has agreed rules for the safe and responsible use of IT and the internet which are to be displayed around the school and in classrooms. All pupils are required to abide by these rules. Staff are also aware of the E-Safety policy, which clearly states the rules and regulations regarding the safe use of school devices by staff and the use of personal devices on school grounds.

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