



# HARROWBARROW SCHOOL

## Computing Curriculum Intent

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### Intent

Through our computing curriculum at Harrowbarrow School we aim to give our pupils the life-skills that will enable them to embrace and utilise ever- changing technology in a socially responsible and safe way. As a school in a rural part of Cornwall, and perhaps with less access to cutting edge technologies than some cities, we aim for our pupils to know how to use technology effectively to access the wider world and to contribute to a global society. Pupils will be made aware of the necessity to adopt technological practices in a world that is becoming increasingly dependent on digital devices. Not only do we want the children here at Harrowbarrow school to be digitally literate and competent end-users of technology but through our computing lessons we want them to develop creativity, resilience, problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Our Computing curriculum focuses on a progression of skills in digital literacy, computer science, information technology and online safety through the Sheffield Computing Scheme of Work to ensure that children become competent in safely using, as well as understanding, technology. These strands are revisited repeatedly through a range of themes during children's time in school to ensure the learning is embedded and skills are successfully developed. Our intention is that Computing also supports children's cross curricular learning to engage children and enrich their experiences and understanding in school.

### Implementation

Computing is taught across the curriculum using the Sheffield Computing Scheme of Work, which breaks down further the curriculum aims of developing digital literacy, information technology and computer science. In this scheme, the children experience a wide range of apps and software within their time at Harrowbarrow School. As they travel through the school, children become increasingly independent and develop the ability to make their own choices about the software to use for a particular purpose. All year groups in KS1 and KS2 have the opportunity to use a range of devices and software for many purposes across the wider curriculum as well as in computing lessons. Cross Curricular links enable the children to make connections and also offer an opportunity to recall previous learning and to apply it. A class set of laptops and half a class set of Ipads are available for use, alongside our new child-friendly, interactive whiteboards.

Each lesson includes computational thinking vocabulary and a skills and knowledge progression scheme that is set out clearly by the Sheffield Computing Scheme of work. Subject knowledge is more in-depth and specific with increasingly complex skills as the children move up the school. Teachers assess where children are and use their assessments to inform their subsequent lessons so that any gaps are fully addressed and misconceptions are dealt with.

## Impact

The implementation of this curriculum ensures that when children leave Harrowbarrow School, they are competent and safe users of ICT with an understanding of how technology works. Our approach to the curriculum results in a fun, engaging, and high-quality computing education. The success of our Computing Curriculum is evidenced by the children's increasing ability to work independently and to make their own decisions with a belief in themselves and their skills. They develop a confident and positive attitude to Information Technology and this enables them to persevere with technological challenges and problem-solving. Much of the subject-specific knowledge developed in our computing lessons equip pupils with experiences which will benefit them in secondary school, further education and future workplaces. From research methods, use of presentation and creative tools and critical thinking, computing at Harrowbarrow School gives children the building blocks that enable them to pursue a wide range of interests and vocations in the next stage of their lives.