



## Computer Studies and Acceptable Use Policy

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Authorised by: MY

**This Policy applies throughout the School from EYFS to Year 6.**

### Introduction

This document is a statement of the aims, principals and strategies for the use of information and communication technology at the School.

Computer studies comprises a variety of systems that handle electronically retrievable information. Computers are the most obvious of these but computer studies also includes use of digital cameras, bee-bots, calculators and iPads.

### Aims

Our aims in using computer studies and computer technology are that all pupils will have the opportunity to:

- Enjoy computer studies and tackle all applications with confidence and a sense of achievement
- Develop practical skills in computer studies and the ability to apply these skills to the solving of relevant and worthwhile problems
- Understand the capabilities and limitations of computer studies and the implications and consequences of its use
- Keep safe with a thorough knowledge of e-safety, appropriate to their age

### Principles for the use of Computer Studies

Computer studies is important because:

1) Its use is widespread in the modern technological world and likely to continue to grow and it is an important medium for learning and study at all educational/workplace levels. The relevance of computer studies to pupils' lives, personal experiences and futures gives them motivation to succeed in the subject and makes learning enjoyable for them. Computer studies contributes to developing successful learners by providing powerful tools for developing creativity, initiative and independent thinking. Computer studies helps pupils to follow enquiries and solve problems, and enhances their skills in logical reasoning, questioning, analysis and research.

2) Computer studies develops pupils' independent learning skills and their confidence, and provides a variety of ways for them to present and share their knowledge and ideas. The subject supports communication and collaborative working.

In September 2014 a new computing curriculum was launched. The national curriculum for computing aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation
- Can analyse problems in computational terms, and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs in order to solve such problems
- Can evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically to solve problems
- Are responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology

(Department for Education, 2014)

Computing is also seen as a cross-curricular strand in the National Curriculum and indications for its use are given in most subjects.

In the EYFS, computer studies comes under the category of Technology within the Understanding the World area of learning.

As a school we are aware that this area of the curriculum requires updating frequently to ensure staff knowledge and competency with hardware and software reflect the evolving progress in this area. (The skills that pupils are capable of have moved on from when the old National Curriculum and QCA Schemes of Work were published. Bearing this in mind we are always looking at ways of using new software to implement a more cross-curricular Computing curriculum). Regular retraining is carried out by the curriculum leader and staff from the Camden CLC. Pupils from different year groups regularly visit the CLC with their class teachers.

Madeleine Ymeri is our curriculum leader in this area and will undertake CEOPS training at Camden Learning Centre and is able to advise staff on current guidelines and good practice related to e-safety.

### **Strategies for the use of Computing**

Computing is taught both as a distinct subject and is also used when appropriate throughout the curriculum to support and enrich pupils' learning. In order to ensure that valuable areas of experience are covered:

- All classes will offer pupils experience in the use of computer studies
- Computer/laptop/iPad use is carefully managed so that all pupils are given equal access opportunities
- Computer studies use is offered as an entitlement for all pupils

Pupils with Special Educational Needs have the same computer studies entitlement as all other pupils and are offered the same curriculum. However, in addition particular applications of computer studies are used for:

- Pupils with difficulties in learning, who need to be motivated to practise basic skills regularly and intensively, and thus benefit from the use of programs in which skills practice is set in the context of a motivating game, such as Word Shark or Touch typing
- Pupils of high ability who may be extended through the use of programs which offer challenge and opportunities for investigation, such as making an iMovie for 2017 Eco Week

The emphasis in our teaching of computer studies is on the use of computers/laptops/iPads as tools to support learning.

- All pupils are made familiar (at an early a stage as possible) with basic aspects of efficient use of keyboard and mousepad
- Word processing is the application most widely used throughout the School
- Touch typing has been developed through the School from Year 1 upwards
- As pupils progress through the School they are given increasing control of their use of computer studies, gaining growing independence in their use of computer studies as a tool appropriate to any given activity and in their choice of software required.

Excellence in computer studies use will be celebrated in demonstrations and display including:

- Displays of text, pictures, graphs and charts which have been produced by pupils using computers/laptops/iPads

### **Strategies for Ensuring Progress and Continuity**

Planning for the use of computer studies is a process in which all teachers will be involved, where:

- Suggestions for computer studies activities are developed by the curriculum leader in collaboration with colleagues
- A termly staff meeting is used to discuss the use being made of computer studies across the curriculum and ensures consistency of approach and of standards

The role of the Curriculum Leader is to:

- Take the lead in policy development and the integration of computer studies into schemes of work designed to ensure progression and continuity in pupil's experience of computer studies throughout the School
- Support colleagues in their efforts to include computer studies in their development of detailed work plans, in their implementation of those schemes of work and in assessment and record keeping activities
- Monitor progress in computer studies and advise the Head on action needed
- Take responsibility for the purchase and organisation of central resources for computer studies
- Take appropriate steps to keep up-to-date with developments in this rapidly changing field and pass on information to colleagues as appropriate
- Be aware of the current guidelines on the teaching and learning of e-safety

### **Assessment**

Feedback to pupils about their own progress in computer studies is rarely formalised and is usually given while a task is being carried out through discussion between pupil and teacher. Formative assessment is mostly carried out informally by teachers during their teaching. Suitable tasks for assessment of computer studies work include:

- Small group discussions perhaps in the context of a practical task
- Pupil self-evaluation in KS2 in conjunction with teacher supervision
- Electronic teacher assessment in KS1 and KS2 based on pupils' completed work
- EYFS assess progress made on an online system - Tapestry
- Specific Computing assignments for individual pupils

- Individual discussions in which pupils are encouraged to appraise their own work and progress.

## **Strategies for the Use of Resources**

Classroom Resources for Computer Studies include:

- A computer in most classrooms, up to 3 in some classrooms
- A laptop trolley in St Luke's Building
- A laptop trolley in the Main Building
- A laptop trolley in St Mary's
- 3 iPads in the Gatehouse for the use of peripatetic music staff
- An iPad sync cart with 32 mini iPads outside Early Years
- A set of calculators in each classroom upwards from Year 3
- Bee-bots to use for EYFS and KS1 pupils
- Brain trainers for various year groups to use

Staff are encouraged to prepare resources and develop personal competence and confidence in the use of computer studies.

iPads may be used as a teaching tool or as a staff management tool. Pupils should not be allowed unsupervised access to the Internet on an iPad. iPads should be locked away or taken home by staff at the end of a school day.

Health and safety issues in Computer Studies include taking care with:

- Setting up and moving equipment
- Establishing appropriate working conditions
- General electrical safety

## **Acceptable Use Statement**

The computer system is owned by the School. 'The computer system' means all computers, memory sticks and other associated equipment belonging to the School, whether part of the School's integrated network, stand-alone or taken off-site.

Professional use of the computer system is characterised by activities that provide pupils with appropriate learning experiences and allow adults to enhance their own professional development. The School recognises that technologies such as the Internet and e-mail will have a profound effect on pupils' education and staff professional development in the coming years and the School's E-safety Policy has been drawn up accordingly.

The installation of software or hardware unauthorised by the School, whether legitimately licensed or not, is expressly forbidden.

Staff are provided with encrypted memory sticks.

The School reserves the right to examine or delete any files that may be held on its computer systems or to monitor any Internet sites visited.

All pupils must be made aware through class discussion of all the important issues relating to acceptable use, especially the monitoring of Internet use. They must sign an acceptable use policy agreeing to highlighted points.

If staff are using the Internet on their own smartphones, iPads or Kindles, then the same Internet access rules apply when staff are on School premises.

### **Internet Access Policy Statement**

All Internet activity should be appropriate to staff professional activities or the pupils' education.

Access is limited to the use of authorised accounts and passwords, which should not be made available to any other person or publicly displayed

The Internet may be accessed by staff and pupils throughout their hours in School.

Activity that threatens the integrity of the School's computer systems, or that attacks or corrupts other systems, is prohibited.

Users are responsible for all e-mails sent and for contacts made that may result in e-mails being received. Due regard should be paid to the content. The same professional levels of language should be applied as for letters and other media. Staff are to respond within 24 hours to e-mails sent during the working week where possible. Emails that are sent to staff after 4pm should not be responded to unless they are of vital importance. Emails sent to staff during holidays/weekends may at their discretion not be responded to until school resumes.

Use of the School's Internet for personal financial gain (including the use of online auction sites), gambling, political purposes or advertising is excluded.

Teachers should not use Google images searching while an interactive white board or computer is in view of pupils.

Any educational material viewed on YouTube must be viewed beforehand by the teacher.

Personal networking sites such as Facebook should not be accessed from School ICT equipment. Staff may use their own personal smartphones or iPads to view such sites from the Staff Room if they so wish.

Staff should be discreet when using their personal mobile devices in and around the School. Staff should not use their personal mobile devices when in class with pupils or in shared School areas (e.g. corridors, playground) during the course of the School day. Specific provisions for personal mobile devices apply to EYFS staff in accordance with the School's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

Staff should not use their own personal social network sites to discuss confidential School matters or share pupils' work. Staff should not include parents or pupils as contacts on their social media sites.

Staff who use social network sites should have the highest level of privacy settings and ensure these are regularly updated.

Staff should not give pupils or parents and guardians their personal email addresses or reply to emails sent to their personal email addresses by pupils or parents and guardians.

Staff should not reply to individual e-mails that may have been sent to them by pupils; such an e-mail should be forwarded to Jane Rogers.

Staff should not email School material to their personal email addresses. If they need to work on School material at home, they should access it from their School email address via webmail or use encrypted memory stick.

If the Internet is used in whole School assemblies and in class then the material must be checked before viewing and any advertising/comments not in view of the audience.

Copyright of materials must be respected. When using downloaded materials, including free materials, the Intellectual Property rights of the originator must be respected and credited. All material saved on the School's network is the property of the School and making unauthorised copies of materials contained thereon maybe in breach of the Data Protection Act, individual copyright or intellectual property rights.

Use of materials stored on the School's network for personal financial gain is prohibited.

Posting anonymous messages and forwarding chain letters is prohibited.

The use of the Internet, e-mail, or any other media to access inappropriate materials such as pornography, racist, violent extremist or any other offensive material is forbidden.

The School is aware of its duty under Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to prevent pupils from being drawn into terrorism (the 'Prevent Duty'). In accordance with the Department for Education advice *Protecting children from radicalisation: the prevent duty* (2015 ) the School ensures that suitable filtering is in place, that the risk of online radicalisation is incorporated into the curriculum and that all teaching staff are aware of the risks posed by the online activity of extremist and terrorist groups.

All web activity is monitored, including the content of e-mail. It is the responsibility of the user to ensure that they have logged off the system when they have completed their task.

The teaching of Internet safety is included in the School's computer studies and PSHCE Scheme of Work but all teachers within all year groups should be including Internet safety issues as part of their discussions on the responsible use of the School's computer systems.

Each year the School will actively participate in Internet Safety Day.

All pupils must understand that if they see an unacceptable image on a computer screen, they must turn the screen off and report immediately to a member of staff.

We are regularly advised by an expert who talks to the pupils, staff and parents regarding up to date e-safety procedure. This includes communication via the weekly newsletter.

Throughout the School, the majority of the access to the Internet will be by teacher or adult demonstration. However, there may be situations when pupils have supervised access to specific approved on-line materials. This is becoming increasingly common now that Purple Mash and Mathletics are being used by the School.

Pupils in Years 1-6 will discuss safe use of the Internet with the class teacher and will, with their parents' consent, sign an Acceptable Use Internet Contract. This will be signed each September and displayed in class.

Pupils using the Internet will be appropriately supervised. All Internet access is filtered through a proxy server to screen undesirable sites at source. Pupils will only use specific sites that have been vetted by the teacher beforehand and child-friendly search engines used.

Pupils using the Internet should only use the Internet in the presence of an appropriate member of staff in School. If staff or pupils discover unsuitable sites, the URL (address) and content must be reported to the Internet Service Provider via the curriculum leader, the ICT Manager or the Bursar.

Pupils should not have access to Chat Rooms and should not engage in conversation or dialogue with other users on the Internet at School.

Staff receiving suspicious e-mails containing attachments must not open them because of the risk of viruses. The Bursar or ICT Manager must be informed immediately if this happens accidentally.

### **Internet and System Monitoring**

Through the server, all Internet activity is monitored by the system. It is the responsibility of the ICT Manager to review this activity periodically. It is the duty of the ICT Manager to report any transgressions of the School's Internet policy and/or use of obscene, racist, violent, extremist or threatening language detected by the system to the Head. Occasionally, it may be necessary for the ICT Manager to investigate attempted access to blocked sites, and in order to do this, the ICT Manager will need to set his/her Internet access rights to "Unrestricted". Whenever this happens, this should be recorded in the ICT violations register and the Head notified.

Breaches of this Internet Access Policy and use of inappropriate language by pupils can be dealt with in a range of ways, including: removal of Internet access rights; computer system access rights; meetings with parents or even exclusion. This is in accordance with the severity of the offence and the School's Behaviour Policy.

Breaches of this Internet Access Policy by staff will be reported to the Head and will be dealt with according to the School's Capability and Disciplinary Policy and may be reported to the police.

### **Internet Publishing Statement**

The School wishes for its web site to reflect the ethos, diversity of activities, individuals and education that can be found at the School. However, the School recognises the potential for abuse that material published on the Internet may attract, no matter how small this risk may be. Therefore, when considering material for publication on the Internet, the following principles should be borne in mind:

- Surnames of pupils should not be published
- No link should be made between an individual and any home address (including partial addresses or locations)
- Photos of pupils whose parents have opted out from publically displaying their child's photograph should not be uploaded onto the school website and newsletter.
- Where there may be a child protection issue at stake then no material should be published that could put the pupil at risk. In the case of a simple piece of artwork or writing, this may well be fine, but images should not be published. If in any doubt, refer to the School's Designated Safeguarding Lead (Isobel Boyt)

## **Use of Portable Equipment**

The School provides portable Computing equipment such as laptop computers, iPads and digital cameras to enhance the pupils' education and to allow staff to make efficient use of such equipment to enhance their own professional activities.

Exactly the same principles of acceptable use apply as in the Acceptable Use Statement above.

Once equipment has been used, it should be returned to the resource area, put away in its correct order and put on charge, ready for future use.

If equipment such as iPads are taken offsite for use by staff in accordance with the Acceptable Use Statement and Internet Access Policy, it shall be the individual who shall bear responsibility if lost or damaged.

Any costs generated by the user at home, such as iTunes, are the responsibility of the user.

Where a member of staff is likely to be away from School through illness, professional development (such as secondment etc.,) or maternity leave, arrangements must be made for any portable equipment in their care to be returned to School. In the event of illness, it is up to the School to collect the equipment if the individual is unable to return it.

If an individual leaves the employment of the School, any equipment must be returned before or on their last day of work.

Pupils should not bring in their own USB pens to load data onto the School computer system. Any work pupils wish to present via a computer must be e-mailed to their year group folder, their own email address or through the School Office. It will then be virus checked.

No software, whether licensed or not, may be installed on computers in the care of staff as the School does not own or control the licences for such software.

## **Linked Policies**

- Anti-bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- E-Safety Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Prevent Policy
- PSHCE Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Taking, Storing and Using Images of Children Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct