**Computing at St John’s**

***‘Children are a gift from the Lord’ (Psalm 127 v.3)***

**The vision of our school**

***St. John’s is a caring, Christian community striving to support its members to achieve their God given potential. Exploring our unique gifts and raising aspirations, we prepare our children for the challenges of the modern world. Following Jesus’ example, we seek to grow good people who can make a difference.***

**A Vision Statement for Computing**

At St. John’s, our Computing curriculum has been designed with the intention of enabling every child to flourish. The curriculum expresses and strengthens our vision, ethos and values which are at the heart of what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. As a school we recognise that a good quality computing curriculum has the potential to provide each child with the knowledge and skills they need to participate safely and effectively in this digital world.

The core of computing is Computer Science in which pupils are introduced to a wide range of technology, allowing them to continually practice and improve the skills they learn. This ensures they become digitally literate so that they are able to express themselves and develop their ideas through information and computer technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world.

We recognise that each and every child is a ‘…gift from the Lord’ consequently, developing and supporting every child in our care: spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and intellectually to become the best that they can be is fundamental to all that we do. We want our children to have the desire to aspire and achieve whatever they want in the world.

As with all curriculum subjects, our school’s Christian vision drives all of our learning.

**God in our Lives**

Our school is a safe place where curious children feel they can discuss and develop their understanding. The computing curriculum prepares children for the ever-growing technological demand and challenges of the modern world. It enables children to develop the necessary knowledge and skills needed for many aspects of their future lives. They develop their computational thinking: the ability to apply programming skills to solve real world problems systematically. Computing lessons encourage pupils to think about digital technology: computational thinking concepts such as logic, algorithms, decomposition and abstraction are emphasised throughout. Pupils are regularly asked to consider the broader moral and ethical issues raised by the technologies they study.

**Ignite your fire**

We ignite a passion and curiosity for learning by providing a rich and engaging computing curriculum to inspire all learners to be the best that they can be. A high-quality computing education equips pupils to use creativity to understand and change the world.

We seek to grow good people who can make a difference to the world around them. Our computing units provide opportunities to learn lifelong skills that are vital in preparing pupils for the next stage of their education. They are given access to a range of hardware and software to stimulate excitement and exploration, and visitors come in to school to discuss computing topics that are relevant both in and out of school such as e-safety.

As pupils become more confident in their abilities in Computing, they will become more independent and fundamental life skills such as problem-solving, logical thinking and self-evaluation become second nature to them.

**Family**

At St John’s we help our children to recognise the importance of being respectful, compassionate and kind friends through understanding human achievements and experiences throughout the world and understanding the contribution of many different people throughout history in the area of computing. Our children will recognise that today the subject transcends cultural boundaries and that it is a universally recognised subject.

Computing prepares children for citizenship in today’s diverse world. In computing lessons, the children work both independently and co-operatively. Through this approach, pupils are encouraged to work collaboratively, to listen and share ideas in a supportive way and celebrate others’ achievements. The computing units provide ample opportunity for pupils to learn together: in many units they work in pairs or small groups, and even when working individually there is opportunity built-in for them to give and receive feedback to others. Pupils become increasingly discerning in evaluating online content and their own and others’ work.

**Truth**

Computing will provide the opportunity for children to become motivated, reflective and resilient learners through developing their ability to make decisions for themselves and engage with practical work. Our children will learn how to be critical of their work and that of others and develop their evaluation skills. In a world, technology now plays such a significant role in society, it is important that children are honest in the evaluation of their own knowledge and skills. Throughout computing lessons, children will follow e-safety rules which they should uphold both in and out of school. This will allow the children at St. John’s not only to engage with the computing curriculum, but also to develop their skills of perseverance, resilience and communication.