



Changes to the ICT Curriculum

There has been much written about the changes that will be happening to the primary curriculum in September. ICT is also affected. Most obvious is the change of name from ICT to Computing. This change is to reflect the shift from children being computer users to computer controllers. Children will be taught to 'code', by devising algorithms (sets of instructions) using a range of devices and software, starting with Beebots in the infants and progressing to programs such as Kodu, Scratch and Python as they move through KS2.

This move to include coding brings a new set of skills and challenges to the children (and staff!) but these are exciting times and I cannot wait to see if we have any budding computer geniuses in our midst. Watch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKlu9yen5nc> to learn more about coding.

The Good Work Continues

At St Andrew's we have always endeavoured to teach ICT in meaningful contexts. We are fortunate to still have two ICT suites that are put to very

good use. Each class has a timetabled lesson in the suite each week to teach a dedicated ICT/Computing lesson. In addition to this we use ICT to enhance other subject areas, for example recording their learning using video, photographs or audio. We also teach children to be responsible users of technology and be aware of potential dangers when going online (E-safety). These aspects of ICT are still important and will continue to be part of our curriculum.



Websites for E-safety advice

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

<http://www.childnet.com/resources/know-it-all-for-parents>

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-and-resources/parents-and-carers/parental-controls>

Code Club

I have recently registered our school with a charity whose aim is to have a computer coding club in every school in the UK. In the summer term I will be starting Code Club for children who show an interest in programming. The club is open to children aged 9-11 years. If you would like to know more about Code Club or the charity responsible for producing the

materials we will be using look online at www.codeclub.org.uk/



Other websites of interest:

Curriculum 2014

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-computing-programmes-of-study>

Scratch

<http://scratch.mit.edu/>

Kodu

<http://www.kodugamelab.com/>

<https://code.org/learn>

<http://www.codecademy.com/>