

A message from Mrs Bermon:

Computing is an essential part of life in today's world. At Darlinghurst we teach children the knowledge and skills that we believe will enable them to make sense of and contribute to their world.

Design and Purpose

Our bespoke Computing Curriculum ensures that all children can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation. We ensure children can analyse problems in computational terms and have real life computing experiences with which to apply their skills. Children can develop their evaluation and analytical skills and apply this to new and unfamiliar technologies to solve problems in information technology and apply to everyday life, maximising their personal and academic growth and maximise their life opportunities. We ensure our children are responsible, competent, confident, and creative users of information and communication technology with a focus on internet safety.

At Darlinghurst we provide an unplugged and plugged curriculum. The unplugged curriculum allows learners to understand computing concepts before they apply them using digital equipment.

Our computing curriculum consists of the following strands: information technology, digital literacy, computer science and e safety. An additional strand, computational thinking, has been included. This teaches the vital thinking skills and processes necessary for using technology to solve problems and find solutions. E-safety and online safeguarding procedures are linked through other curriculum subjects such as RSHE.

Difference

Our children are prepared to study computing at secondary school through our approach. They understand the vocabulary and concepts for them to progress quickly in their studies. Through their computational thinking unit, children have learned how to apply the necessary thinking skills to become successful coders in the modern world. The unplugged curriculum has increased the confidence of both the children and the staff teaching computing.

Use of the computing suite as well as laptops across the school has enabled our children to put their theoretical skills into practise using different software and applications to demonstrate the skills. A coding club this year has enabled children with a keen interest to develop their skills and prepare for a future career.

As part of our My Future, My Southend Project, the children were exposed to different careers linked to technology and computing which has helped raised aspirations and challenge stereotypes. They particularly enjoyed seeing how technology is used in careers such as graphic designing and computer game design and it has helped them understand the knowledge and skills needed to pursue careers in this sector.

We regularly liaise with other local schools to keep up to date with current trends in teaching computing and ensure that our provision is the best that we can provide. We have hosted CPD this last year and showed schools our approach to teaching the curriculum unplugged.