Computing Catch Up Strategy January 2022

At The Mead Academy Trust, we develop computational thinkers who can confidently communicate and solve problems, grounded in their own experiences. We cultivate an enthusiasm for digital literacy and enable all children to be members of, and contribute towards, a fast-changing dynamic world.

To enable the implementation of the computing curriculum, we use the Teach Computing scheme developed by the National Centre for Computing Education, (NCCE). Teach Computing is built around an innovative progression framework where computing content has been organised into interconnected networks.

Throughout lockdown, children have missed large sections of their computing learning and have not had access to the use of the same broad range of technologies accessed in school. We are also mindful of gaps in learning prior to the implementation of Teach Computing from Sept 2021.

Priority is given to using computing devices safely and responsibly. All children have been provided with new safe and secure access via individual logins and passwords. We recognised Online Safety Week and regularly speak with children about staying safe online. We have spent time ensuring that children Y1-6 are becoming confident to login and use devices independently.

We have worked with our computing hub to identify specific areas of the curriculum that have needed swapping or amending to meet the needs of the children at this time and ensure future progression in computing. An example of this is Y3, where children would not have had the prior knowledge and understanding to complete the planned unit of learning.

We are also developing the use of computing clubs that will support the confidence of pupils and the practice of skills. In addition, we are to revive the pupil role of digital leaders to support their peers across the year groups.

In Term 6, we will review the curriculum for next academic year to ensure that children have the necessary skills through their prior learning to ensure they are provided with opportunity to build upon their existing skills and knowledge, particularly focussing on sequencing and programming.