Computing

"A high-quality computing education equips pupils to use computational thinking and creativity to understand and change the world." National Curriculum

Computing skills are essential in every aspect of our lives. We believe that it is crucial to equip children with the skills and knowledge to develop their understanding and use of the ever changing world of technology; thus preparing them with vital life skills.

We strive to build an E-safety conscious community in which pupils develop an understanding of how to communicate safely online. We make links to our PSHE curriculum and our Portway Code (Ready, Respectful and Safe) to facilitate these important teaching points within lessons and to respond to the needs of our children.

There are four key areas of computing: Computer Science, Digital Literacy, Use of Technology and E-Safety. Within these, Portway ensures that children will gain the confidence and understanding to use various softwares and devices to produce purposeful outcomes. All children are taught these skills and given the opportunities to develop, build on and consolidate their learning throughout their time with us.

Throughout our Digital Literacy portions of the curriculum children are exposed to various softwares and are given either clear instructions or a brief to help them use that software be it Word, Excel or Powerpoint. We also aim to give the children opportunities to use a computer as they are used in the modern world; we teach children how to write emails, use shortcuts, save documents and find information.

Within our Programming (Computer Science) units we teach our lessons through the PRIMM approach which allows students to Predict, Run, Investigate, Modify and Make using different code. This allows students to understand how a code works and what they can do to solve problems, change aspects of code and make their own.

The teaching of our Computing curriculum prepares students to use a computer as an aid throughout the rest of their lives, especially as they journey onto secondary school. Pupils understand how to use various softwares and pieces of technology to support them and their learning. They have a deep understanding of how they can use technology to fit their needs in an ever changing world that relies more and more on technology.

Portway Junior School ensures that the Computing curriculum:

● Challenges and inspires the children to achieve through creative learning opportunities.
● Promotes deep thinking within their learning so that all children are able to become competent and computational thinkers.
● Allows all pupils to become digitally literate; enabling them to express themselves and develop their ideas through information and communication.
● Ensures children know and understand how to keep themselves and others safe when using the internet and social media / communication games, devices and websites.
● Is relevant to the current climate and the world our children are growing up in.
● Gives all children opportunities to experiment with programming.