

St Charles Catholic Primary School



Computing and Internet Safety Policy (2025–2027)

Updated Autumn 2025 to reflect DfE guidance and adoption of Kapow
Primary Computing Scheme

Designated Teacher: Frederick Fowle
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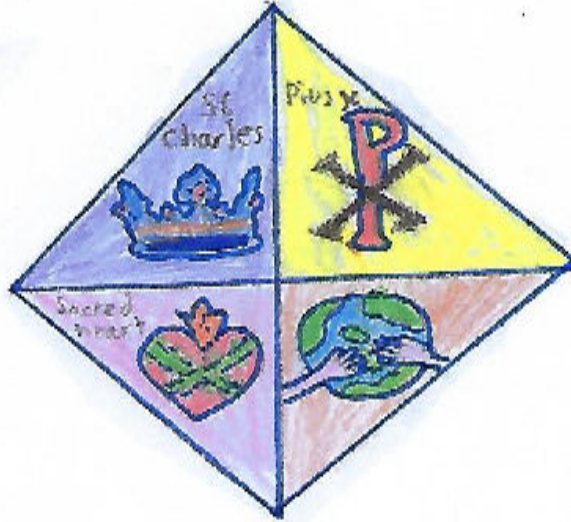
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St Charles Catholic Primary school

Our Mission Statement

☸ **Love God, Love your Neighbour** ☸



(Design by Claudia 5A - 2020)

Through God's love, and with guidance from the Holy Spirit, we, the Community of St Charles, share our Catholic faith together. We seek to nurture in our children an understanding of the importance of Christian values and a deep love and lifelong commitment to God.

We value the unique strengths and gifts of the children entrusted to us and strive to provide an excellent education, so that through our teaching the children may realise their full potential.

In partnership with our families, Governors and Parish, and inspired by our faith, we support the children of St Charles. We encourage them to shine, to have pride in their achievements, to show concern for others and contribute to society as responsible citizens.

Our Aims

- To appreciate that we are all uniquely created and loved by God.
- To deepen each child's understanding of the Catholic faith.
- To nurture in the children an understanding of Christian values and how these help shape our lives and the lives of others.
- To understand the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation.
- To work in partnership with parents and Parish to create a Christian atmosphere enriched through prayer.
- To provide an excellent education so children learn and achieve their potential.
- To respect and care for one another in a happy, welcoming and nurturing community.

To ensure children care and respect others, develop an understanding of the world and contribute to society as responsible citizens.

2. Aims and Objectives

The aim of this policy is to ensure that Computing and online learning at St Charles are taught in a way that develops curiosity, creativity and responsibility.

Our objectives are to:

- Deliver a broad, balanced and progressive Computing curriculum that meets the requirements of the National Curriculum and reflects the school's Catholic ethos.
- Equip pupils with the skills and confidence to use technology purposefully, creatively and safely.
- Encourage pupils to explore technology as independent thinkers and problem-solvers.
- Ensure that online behaviour reflects respect, compassion and responsibility, mirroring Gospel values.
- Enable pupils to understand and apply the key principles of computer science, information technology and digital literacy.
- Teach pupils how to keep themselves and others safe online, through age-appropriate curriculum content and digital literacy initiatives, in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE 2023) and DfE Filtering and Monitoring Standards (2023)
- Provide all staff with the guidance, resources and training to teach Computing effectively and confidently.

3. Curriculum Overview

At St Charles, Computing prepares pupils for a rapidly changing digital world. Our approach develops computational thinking, creativity, and safe, responsible use of technology, grounded in Catholic values.

The school follows the Kapow Primary Computing Scheme across Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

This provides a clear progression of knowledge and skills through three strands:

- Computer Science – programming, algorithms, systems and networks.
- Information Technology – creating, storing and presenting digital content.
- Digital Literacy – responsible, respectful and confident use of technology.

The Kapow scheme also embeds online-safety objectives mapped to *Education for a Connected World (UKCIS 2023)* and ensures that all statutory elements of the National Curriculum are fully met.

Computing in the Early Years

In the Early Years Foundation Stage, children explore technology through play and guided experiences. They use programmable toys, simple apps and interactive media to develop logical thinking, communication and creativity. These early experiences build curiosity and confidence that support later learning in Computing.

Cross-Curricular Integration

Computing at St Charles is not only taught in isolation.

Digital skills are woven through other subjects — for example, data handling in science, digital art and music, publishing work in English, and research in History and Geography.

This strengthens understanding and supports communication and collaboration across the curriculum.

Cultural Capital and Faith Context

Our Computing curriculum enhances pupils' cultural capital by exposing them to a wide range of technologies, problem-solving opportunities and creative media. Pupils learn how technology influences society and how to use it ethically to serve others, protect creation and promote justice, in keeping with Catholic social teaching.

4. Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Teaching and Learning

Computing at St Charles is taught using a practical, creative and inclusive approach. The Kapow Primary Computing Scheme provides carefully sequenced units which ensure full National Curriculum coverage and clear progression in skills, knowledge and understanding.

- Computing units are delivered over the course of a half term, following the curriculum map, with additional opportunities for pupils to use technology across the wider curriculum.
- Teachers adapt Kapow units to meet pupils' needs
- Activities are designed to be engaging and challenging, encouraging pupils to work independently and in teams.
- Pupils' work is recorded in Computing books or saved digitally as appropriate, providing evidence of learning and progress.
- Adaptation ensures that all pupils, including those with SEND, can access the curriculum successfully.
- Online safety is explicitly taught within Kapow units and revisited through PSHE, RSE and assemblies.

Assessment

Assessment in Computing is continuous and formative.

Teachers use Kapow's progression statements to monitor pupils' attainment and identify next steps.

Evidence includes:

- Annotated work in Computing books;
- Observations and discussion;
- Digital artefacts such as presentations, animations and code;
- Self- and peer-assessment opportunities.

Assessment is monitored by the Computing Lead to ensure consistent progression across year groups.

5. Resources and Access

The school provides a broad range of hardware and software to support the Computing curriculum:

- Networked computers in Computer Suite and Chromebooks in classrooms;
- Interactive whiteboards and visualisers to enhance teaching;
- A range of licensed software and secure online platforms (including Kapow and LGfL resources).

Management of Resources

- The ICT Technician maintains all devices and ensures regular software and security updates.
- The Computing Lead liaises with the technician to audit and plan for resource renewal.
- Digital tools are selected based on their educational value, accessibility and compliance with data-protection requirements.
- The school uses LGfL as its Internet Service Provider, ensuring compliance with the DfE Filtering and Monitoring Standards (2023).
- All staff and pupils use personal login credentials and secure storage for digital work.

Accessibility and Inclusion

- Access to Computing resources is equitable for all pupils. Assistive technologies (for example, text-to-speech, dictation, enlarged display and accessibility settings) are available to ensure full participation.
- Classrooms are organised so that technology is readily available and integrated naturally into learning.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

Executive Headteacher, Head of School and Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

- Ensure compliance with KCSIE 2025, DfE Filtering and Monitoring Standards 2023, and data-protection legislation.
- Provide staff training and monitor funding for Computing development.
- Monitor policy implementation and report annually to governors.
- Promote the safe and effective use of technology across the curriculum.

Computing Lead

- Lead the implementation of the Kapow Primary Computing Scheme.
- Support staff in planning, teaching and assessment.
- Monitor standards through lesson visits, pupil voice and work sampling.
- Coordinate staff training and maintain awareness of new technologies.
- Work alongside the DSL to ensure online safety is integrated into all teaching.

Class Teachers

- Deliver Computing lessons following the school's scheme of work.
- Model safe and responsible use of technology.
- Adapt lessons to meet the needs of all pupils.
- Maintain Computing books and digital portfolios as evidence of progress.
- Reinforce online-safety messages in all digital activities.

ICT Technician

- Maintain reliable, secure and up-to-date systems.
- Ensure filtering and monitoring remain effective.
- Respond promptly to technical issues and support staff in troubleshooting.
- Advise the SLT and Computing Lead on resource needs and software updates.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

- Oversee all online-safety matters within the school.
- Ensure that staff understand how to identify and respond to online-safety incidents.
- Liaise with external agencies and parents where required.

- Review online-safety training annually.

Governing Body

- Approve and review this policy
- Monitor compliance with statutory guidance and DfE standards.
- Receive updates on Computing provision and online-safety matters from the Headteacher or Computing Lead.

7. Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

Planning

- Teachers plan Computing lessons using the Kapow Primary Computing Scheme.
- Medium-term plans outline the units of work, key vocabulary, and links to the National Curriculum and online-safety strands.
- Teachers adapt Kapow lesson materials to meet the needs of their classes and to make meaningful cross-curricular links.
- Computing is planned to ensure clear progression of skills and knowledge from EYFS through to Year 6.
- Long-term and medium-term plans are reviewed annually by the Computing Lead in consultation with staff and senior leaders.

Monitoring

The Computing Lead, supported by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), monitors Computing provision through:

- Lesson observations and learning walks;
- Review of Computing books and (where needed and relevant) digital portfolios;
- Discussions with pupils and staff;
- Audits of resources and staff confidence;
- Analysis of assessment information from the Kapow progression framework.

Monitoring ensures that Computing teaching remains consistent, high quality,

and aligned with school improvement priorities.

Evaluation

Evaluation of the Computing curriculum focuses on:

- Pupil achievement and engagement;
- Staff feedback and training needs;
- Effectiveness of resources and technologies in use;
- Impact of online-safety teaching on pupil awareness and behaviour;
- Compliance with DfE and statutory safeguarding requirements.

Findings from evaluation inform the Computing Priorities.

8. Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

At St Charles, all pupils are entitled to high-quality Computing education and equal access to technology.

Inclusive Practice

- Lessons are adapted to meet the varying abilities and learning needs of pupils.
- Teachers use a range of approaches, grouping strategies and support to ensure full participation.
- Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) receive additional support through adapted resources and assistive technologies.
- Gifted and talented pupils are provided with enrichment tasks and extension challenges
- Teaching reflects diverse perspectives and contributions in technology and innovation.

Equality and Accessibility

The school is committed to ensuring that all learners, regardless of background or gender, have equal access to digital tools, resources and learning opportunities.

Computing contributes to promoting equality by encouraging collaboration,

problem-solving and respect for others' ideas.

Resources and learning materials are selected to represent a diverse range of people, cultures and communities.

Accessibility in Practice

- Hardware and software are chosen for accessibility and usability.
- Visual, auditory and motor needs are considered when setting up devices.
- Support staff are trained to assist pupils effectively during Computing lessons.

Accessibility features (such as speech-to-text, font enlargement and colour contrast) are enabled where needed.

Through inclusive teaching, every pupil at St Charles can access and enjoy Computing, develop confidence in their skills, and understand how technology can empower and include all members of society.

9. Internet Access and Online Safety

St Charles Catholic Primary School recognises that the internet is an essential element in education, business and social interaction.

The school provides pupils with opportunities to access the internet and digital technologies safely, responsibly and purposefully, as part of their wider learning.

Teaching Online Safety

Online safety is taught as an integral part of the Computing curriculum through the Kapow Primary Computing Scheme and reinforced in PSHE () and RSE lessons, as well as during assemblies and themed events such as Safer Internet Day.

Pupils are taught to:

- Use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly;
- Recognise acceptable and unacceptable online behaviour;
- Protect personal information and privacy;

- Report concerns or inappropriate content to trusted adults;
- Question the reliability of digital content and sources.

These lessons are age-appropriate, interactive and linked to real-life scenarios, helping pupils understand both the opportunities and risks of the online world.

Internet Use

- Pupils access the internet for educational purposes, under staff supervision.
- Filtering and monitoring systems are provided by LGfL in line with the DfE Filtering and Monitoring Standards (2023).
- Staff preview websites, applications and online content before use in lessons.
- Staff and pupils sign Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs), setting clear expectations for behaviour and safety online.
- Breaches of acceptable use are handled in line with the school's Behaviour and Safeguarding policies.
- Any serious breaches or safeguarding concerns are reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and recorded on the school's safeguarding system.

School Website and Digital Communication

- The school website is managed by authorised staff under the direction of the Executive Headteacher and complies with statutory publication requirements.
- Photographs or videos of pupils are only used where parental consent has been obtained.
- Personal information such as full names and addresses are never published online.
- Email and communication tools are used respectfully and appropriately, with pupils using school-approved platforms only.

Social Media

Staff, pupils and parents are expected to use social media responsibly. The school does not permit unauthorised social media accounts representing St Charles. Staff must not post content or images relating to pupils, colleagues or school activities on personal accounts.

All communication with pupils and families should take place through official school channels.

10. Data Protection and GDPR

St Charles Catholic Primary School complies fully with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act (2018).

- All staff receive training on data protection and secure handling of personal information.
- Personal data, including pupil information and digital work, is stored securely within the school network or approved cloud platforms.
- Portable devices and storage media are password-protected.
- Staff only use school email accounts for professional purposes.
- Digital data is retained and deleted in accordance with the school's Data Protection Policy and retention schedule.
- Any data breaches are reported immediately to the Data Protection Officer (DPO) and managed following statutory procedures.

The school's data-handling practices reflect the Catholic ethos of respect for the dignity and privacy of every individual.

Appendices

All appendices, including:

- Staff and pupil Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs);
 - Parental consent forms;
 - Data protection procedures
- are held in school and kept under review